

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 DECEMBER 1980

American Hostages

According to Tehran radio, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i met with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and discussed the fate of the U.S. hostages. Raja'i told PARS after the meeting that Khomeyni approved a reply "acceptable to all the officials and the people of Iran" to be sent to the United States in order to end the "procrastination and cumbersomeness" of the exchanges. The United States now has only "to provide certain financial guarantees that we have demanded," the prime minister added, and then at "any time or on any day" the United States can "take away the spies."

Earlier, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i told a Tehran radio correspondent that "the hostage issue is almost at its final stage." If Khomeyni approves the report on the hostage issue, the prime minister continued, then Iran will submit its "final reply" to the United States and "it will be up to the U.S. Administration to adopt measures on taking these 52 people." Raja'i's comments followed a meeting of the government council, the radio reported, which discussed the hostage issue and monetary matters.

At a press conference in Tehran, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said that the prolongation of the hostage issue has been caused by "those who hold the real power in the United States" but that if they accept the Majlis conditions "clearly and unambiguously, the issue will be resolved forthwith." According to Tehran radio, Bani-Sadr stressed that the key issue is the unfreezing of Iranian assets held in the United States and not the late shah's wealth. Referring to the Majlis condition that the "Americans return our money to us," the president said the solution "is apparently easy." However, the Iranian people will not accept a solution that "would tamper with even a penny of their money," he added. Bani-Sadr's emphasis on the Iranian assets follows earlier reports of numerous high-level meetings among Iranian officials about various monetary problems and the generally worsening economic situation.

Iran Domestic Affairs

Bani-Sadr Comment--President Bani-Sadr told a press conference reported by Tehran radio that his main rivals are "counterrevolutionaries" who are plotting against the revolution "in collusion with a foreign power." Not only do we have a war that has been foisted on us by them, Bani-Sadr asserted, but "we also have a civil war, an economic blockade and dozens of plots and assassination plans."

Esfahan Imam Protest--According to Tehran radio, the Friday imam of Esfahan, Ayatollah Jaleleddin Taheri, quit his post and left the city in protest against "fifth columnists" in the country who are undermining Islam and deprecating Ayatollah Khomeyni. Taheri charged in a statement that the local Voice and Vision (Iran's radio and television network) station broadcast "insults and rudeness" toward Khomeyni while other plotters defaced pictures of Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri.

Iran Foreign Affairs

In an interview with Swiss and Austrian radio correspondents reported by Tehran radio, Prime Minister Raja'i said Iran's relations with the Soviet Union should not go so far that they harm Iran's independence. As to renewed relations with Europe, especially West Germany, the prime minister declared that some people "are trying to represent Europe as a world separate from the East and the West," but because of Europe's support for the U.S. economic blockade, "we regret" Iran cannot regard Europe as being independent of the United States.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

President Bani-Sadr backed away from earlier comments about an imminent Iranian Army offensive against the Iraqis when asked about the military situation at a Tehran press conference as reported by Tehran radio. Bani-Sadr said the Iranian forces have halted the Iraqi advance and are now taking "the next step, namely, to weaken and wear down the enemy." According to another radio report, the president was no more expansive on the fighting following a meeting with Ayatollah Khomeyni, saying only that "in general," the situation "is good on all the battlefronts." At the same press conference the acting chief of the joint staff, Brig Gen Valiollah Fallahi, said that the Iranian air defense "could be a reason" for the "noticeable" reduction in Iraqi air attacks in recent weeks. He added that "as a rule" seldom more than half of the attacking planes are able to return to Iraq. Fallahi also asserted that Iranian air, naval and ground forces are continuing offensive operations against the Iraqis and are going to "tip the balance in their favor."

Iranian and Iraqi forces clashed around Susangerd, Tehran radio reported, with both sides suffering losses. Near Ahvaz, Iranian artillery reportedly halted an Iraqi armor column that attempted to cross the Karkheh Kur River. An Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, carried by Baghdad Radio, claimed the Iranians lost 70 killed in recent fighting, mainly in the Bahmanshir Canal area of Abadan. Tehran radio's Arabic service, citing the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, reported that the export of Iraqi crude oil from the Syrian port of Baniyas stopped following Iranian air raids on oil installations in Kirkuk.

Kurdish Question

In an interview with LE MONDE correspondent Eric Rouleau published on 12 December, Kordestan Democratic Party (KDP) Secretary General 'Abdol Rahman Qasemlu said that although Iranian Kurds are willing to negotiate with the government they will never lay down their arms. Qasemlu admitted, however, that seven members of the KDP Central Committee have already resigned because they oppose armed struggle. The KDP leader described the Iranian Government as a regime of mullahs that has "confiscated" the revolution "for its benefit," and he said that following "assaults launched by the forces of order" the KDP "moved onto the offensive 1 month ago." Qasemlu denied charges by Iraqi Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani that a guerrilla war by Iranian Kurds would lead to a military regime in Tehran, saying it is not self-evident that the army will take power and adding that the most influential political force "on a national scale" in Iran is the Mojahedin-e Khalq. Asked about KDP relations with Iraq, Qasemlu said "we support any Kurdish movement outside Iran that asks for our support; Baghdad knows that quite well." Iraq, he said, is "just as dependent on us as we are on it." The KDP leader did not deny receiving arms from Iraq but said the KDP tries to diversify sources of supply. Although the KDP has condemned Iraq for "having sparked off the hostilities" in the current war, Qasemlu said the KDP holds Iran "responsible" for the war as a result of its repeated provocations against Iraq.

Afghanistan

Afghan leader Babrak Karmal, interviewed by Kabul radio, reiterated the DRA's support for the Soviet and Indian call for a "political solution" of the problems of the region. Karmal again called for "direct talks, without any type of interference from abroad" and expressed hope that the leaders of Iran and Pakistan will respond "positively" to proposals for a political solution, adding "we are ready to meet them at any time and place convenient for both sides and acceptable to us."

Syrian-Libyan Relations

Following a report by Tripoli radio's Voice of the Arab Homeland that unity talks between Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad began on 15 December, Dasmascus radio revealed that the talks centered on the "basic and general principles of unity" between the two countries based on a plan submitted by the Syrian side. The radio said that after the meeting Hafiz al-Asad restated Syria's view that unity is the "best weapon to confront the imperialist moves in the area." The radio also said that in a statement to Syrian television, Al-Qadhafi asserted that "the political and technical aspects" of unity have been resolved but the "executive administrative procedures" remain to be discussed in further talks on 16 December.

Israel

Tel Aviv IDF radio reported that Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzera told the Knesset House Committee he agrees to have his immunity removed in order to prove his innocence of corruption charges in court. Abu-Hatzera claimed he is a victim of libel intended to ruin his political career.

OPEC Conference

AFP reported from Bali that the OPEC countries have decided to set three new prices: \$32 a barrel for Saudi Arabian light crude; \$36 for Gulf countries, including Kuwait, Qatar and Iraq; and \$41 for African producers such as Algeria and Libya. AFP earlier reported that Venezuela's Oil Minister Humberto Calderon Berti revealed that the conference agenda would include proposals to raise oil prices but would not make any "formal" effort to end the Iran-Iraq war or deal with the question of Iran's captured oil minister, Mohammad Javad Tonguyan.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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ARAB INFORMATION MINISTERS COUNCIL BEGINS SESSION

LD130054 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The work of the council of Arab ministers of information opened this morning at the palace of conferences in Tunis in the presence of Chedli Klibi, general secretary of the Arab League. Abdallah al-Hurani, director general of the PLO Department of Information and Culture, delivered a speech. He pointed out that the Arab nation was at present going through a grave stage in its life and conflict with Zionism and with the forces hostile to it. He said that it was demanded from the Arab nation at this particular stage to prove its vitality and its ability to [word indistinct] this struggle and to provide all resources for its victory. He pointed out that Arab information was considered one of the most important instruments which must be used in this conflict to gain world public opinion, to draw it to the support of the just Arab causes. He stressed the necessity for the marshalling of efforts to make a success of the Arab information move in this direction.

Chedli Klibi then delivered a speech in which he made an appeal to the governments of the Arab states. He appealed to them to keep Arab information away from all disputes within the Arab family. He pointed out that the council of the Arab information ministers is the first council of the Arab League to convene after the 11th Arab summit conference and includes 21 delegations representing all members. He said that this confirmed that the boycott of six states of the summit conference was not more than an occasional incident and that Arab solidarity was always in existence, and that efforts were continuing toward destroying the differences that disturbed some bilateral relations.

ARAB ENERGY CONSUMPTION CONFERENCE BEGINS

LD141928 Kuwait KUNA in English 1201 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Dec (KUNA)--Representatives from almost all Arab countries began a meeting here Sunday to study estimates of their countries' demand on energy within the framework of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

The meeting is attended by representatives from Arab and international firms. They will discuss problems facing technicians who are estimating demand in energy in the Arab world.

The three-day conference will discuss the nature of Arab energy consumption rates from detailed, accurate and comprehensive sides.

The meeting was inaugurated by OAPEC's Assistant Secretary General Dr. 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Wattari. He said that the Arab countries' rate of consumption could totally amount to 50 percent of their current production within 30 years.

He added he is convinced that the problem of energy production and consumption could not be separated from the Arab development operation which should be implemented within a comprehensive Arab framework.

He pointed out that Arab oil exporting countries' energy consumption has increased in the period 1973-78 at high rates as a result of the increasing local consumption.

Al-Wattabi said that this is due to the big increase in these countries' income during the same period. In addition, the local energy prices were not similarly responding to international oil price increases.

He confirmed that if the current rates of consumption in these countries continued their upward trend then local consumption will reach a high rate of their energy production.

Concerning the Arab oil importing countries the assistant secretary general said that the international rise in oil prices has led to increasing their financial burdens. They have to consider their energy consumption in accordance with their development requirements and elevating their peoples' standard of living at the same time.

Dr. al-Wattari said that these countries should achieve coordination between their development requirements and their citizens basic energy needs.

'ARAFAT SENDS CASTRO MESSAGE ON MEDIATION EFFORT

NC121212 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday sent a reply cable to Cuban President Fidel Castro on the latest developments of the situation in the area and the efforts exerted by the good offices committee stemming from the nonaligned states group to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war.

'ARAFAT CHAIRS 15 DEC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

NC160726 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] At noon yesterday Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, chaired a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee.

At the meeting the conferees discussed the UN resolutions on the Palestinian issue, the return of Brothers Fahd al-Qawasimah and Muhammad Hasan Milhim, and the occupation authorities' terrorist measures against our people in the occupied homeland. The Executive Committee also discussed military, organizational and administrative issues.

KUWAITMINISTER DENIES CHARGE OF CHANNELING ARMS TO IRAQ

LD141452 Kuwait KUNA in English 1101 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Dec (KUNA)--Reports that arms shipments are dispatched through Kuwait ports and roads to Iraq are completely unfounded, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn said Sunday.

The allegations were made in a report carried earlier in the week by the Iranian news agency PARS.

The minister expressed regrets at the unfounded reports which PARS carries.... Due to this unfortunate situation, we are no longer commenting on the Iranian agency's despatches, the minister added.

ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BEN YAHIA ARRIVES 14 DEC

LD141746 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1226 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 14 Dec (KUNA)--The Algerian foreign minister, Mohamed Ben Yahia, denied that Algeria has not fulfilled its financial obligations toward Arab states confronting Israel agreed on at the Baghdad (1978) and Tunis (1979) Arab summits. He said in a statement on arrival here from Damascus that Algeria is "ready to publish figures concerning all the sums it has paid out."

King Husayn of Jordan had said at the end of the Arab summit conference held in Amman last November that Algeria and Libya had not fulfilled their obligations which were then being met by Arab Gulf states.

The Algerian foreign minister is carrying a message from the Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah.

Ben Yahia also said that the current Arab situation calls for "the making of all efforts to bring about a victory for the fateful cause, the liberation of Palestine from the enemy occupying it, and this called for contacts, consultations and joint action to achieve this end." Ben Yahia said that he will discuss the Arab situation with Kuwaiti Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, who welcomed him at the airport, and will exchange views with him over "initiatives that can be undertaken in this field." It was announced in Abu Dhabi today that Ben Yahia is to visit the UAE on Tuesday and deliver a message to its president, Shaykh Zayid, from President Bendjedid.

Meeting With Foreign Minister

LD151202 Kuwait KUNA in English 1122 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Dec (KUNA)--Official talks between the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and the visiting Algerian Foreign Minister Mohammad Ben Yahia were held at the Foreign Ministry premises here Monday.

Ben Yahia told newsmen that the talks were deep and fruitful and said they formed a positive step towards clearing the Arab atmosphere and realising Arab solidarity towards the Palestine cause. He added that the Iraqi-Iranian war, problems of the region and the world situation in general were discussed.

The visiting minister said that he also reviewed with Shaykh Sabah relations between the two countries which he described as fraternal and hoped they would be a model for inter-Arab relations.

AL-QABAS COMMENTS ON BREZHNEV'S GULF PLAN

GF131254 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 12 Dec 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Soviet Silk and American Steel"]

[Text] The difference between the Soviet Union and the United States is that the Soviets are more skillful in drafting innocent and glittering words, whereas the Americans frequently use blunt phrases in their statements. This particularly applies to "Brezhnev's principles" and to "the Carter doctrine" in viewing the situation in the Gulf.

If we "innocently" read the five points outlined by the Soviet leader in New Delhi recently, we would warmly welcome them. Outwardly they appear to be a realistic and sound formulation of what the countries of the area themselves want, for what Gulf country rejects the points contained in the Soviet plan--nonacceptance of foreign military bases in the area and prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons, the absence of threats to use force against Gulf states, nonintervention in their internal affairs, respect for their sovereignty over their natural resources, and the absence of threats to the area's trade and maritime routes?

This "innocent" Soviet declaration on the situation in the Gulf fundamentally differs from "the Carter doctrine" on the Gulf that Carter proclaimed in his state of Union speech to Congress last January. Carter crudely and bluntly threatened to use military force against any "attempt to control the Gulf, and called on the countries of the Middle East and Southwest Asia to form "collectively a protective umbrella that protects the oil-rich countries and the flow of oil...." What Carter said in this regard is compatible with the permanent U.S. strategic idea of setting up military alliances all along the confrontation lines with the Soviet Union.

As a Gulf country, however, we should not be deceived by the innocent and glittering Soviet principles and should give the utmost attention to the U.S. "principles," their arrogance, crudeness and aggressiveness notwithstanding.

We view what Carter said in the past and what Brezhnev declared recently from a totally independent angle. The real apprehensions that we as Gulf countries and peoples should have is the international conflict approaching the oil regions of the area, regardless of the form that conflict takes: be it a Soviet velvet glove or an American fist of steel.

The conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union has been going on since the 1940's, and will continue for a long time. The 1940's saw the formation of the NATO alliance. The 1950's witnessed conflict between the two superpowers in Korea and the Middle East. In the 1960's there was confrontation in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

We view the Soviet and U.S. declarations from this angle--the angle of the dangers of a confrontation between the two camps in the 1980's.

Does the Americans' and Soviets' approach toward the Gulf mean that they have chosen "the Gulf oil continent" as their new arena of confrontation for the 1980's?

SAUDI ARABIAPRINCE HAILS SYRIAN WITHDRAWAL, DENIES PAYMENT

LD141932 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] His Royal Highness 'Adallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, has commented on reports that the Syrian Arab Republic today completed the withdrawal of all its forces from its common borders with Jordan as a result of the kingdom's initiative to remove tension between the two sister countries. He said: I thank God Almighty for the success He has granted the initiative of His Majesty King Khalid in removing such tension between the brothers in Syria and Jordan.

He added: At a time when I am overwhelmed with happiness because of this result which makes every sincere Arab happy, I feel deep sorrow and sadness because of the false reports which have been circulated by some newspapers, which have tried to diminish the importance of this initiative by giving the impression that the kingdom paid Syria for agreeing to withdraw. His royal highness stressed that neither Syria nor the kingdom could think of acting in such a manner, and that when Syria agreed to his majesty's initiative it did so with manhood and gallantry and also an appreciation of the current Arab situation.

His royal highness called on Arab information media not to forget their national duty and not to betray the principles of the nation and their conscience.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES ROLE IN CHAD CONFLICT

GF151643 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] An official source in the Foreign Ministry today denied reports that the kingdom has provided aid to certain of the factions fighting in Chad. The source, who described these reports as totally unfounded and fabricated in form and essence, said in a statement to the SAUDI NEWS AGENCY that the kingdom's policy is based on nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries and on rejection of this kind of attitude in dealing with countries.

KING KHALID RECEIVES JAPANESE TRADE MINISTER

GF141840 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Japanese Minister of International Trade and Industry Rokusuke Tanaka in his office in Mu'aydhah today. The Japanese minister delivered a written message from the Japanese prime minister. The meeting was attended by second deputy prime minister and national guard commander, Prince 'Adallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; Minister of Foreign Affairs Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, special adviser of his majesty the king Dr Rashad Fir'awn and Trade Minister Dr Sulayman as-Salim.

UAEOIL MINISTER REAFFIRMS OIL PRICE POSITION

NC131214 Doha QNA in Arabic 1105 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Dec (QNA)--UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah has reiterated that his country does not see any need to increase oil prices at present in view of the conditions through which the economies of the developing states are passing.

However, he said that the question of prices will be discussed at the OPEC ministerial council conference which is scheduled to be held on the island of Bali, Indonesia.

In statements he made to correspondents before leaving Abu Dhabi today for Bali to attend the conference, Dr 'Utaybah affirmed that UAE will not increase its oil production at present and that it had decided to decrease it by 80,000 barrels a day from 1 January. However, he promised to increase production after maintenance work in the oilfields is completed.

Dr 'Utaybah expressed his hope that the Bali conference would succeed. He also expressed the hope that not much argument would take place on the question of prices.

He expressed his belief that OPEC does not object to undertake mediation between Iraq and Iran provided the two countries request such mediation.

He pointed out that OPEC's long-term strategy will be discussed as soon as the Iraqi-Iranian crisis ends. During its meeting in Bali, he said, OPEC will discuss the question of convening an extraordinary ministerial council conference to prepare for an OPEC summit conference, which was scheduled to be held in Baghdad and was then postponed because of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

PDRY

PFLO SUPPORTS BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS ON GULF REGION

LD151316 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Dec 80 EA

[Text] The PFLO has highly praised the Soviet proposals on security and stability in the Arab Gulf region presented to the Indian Parliament by Leonid Brezhnev, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

In a statement issued today the PFLO stressed the proposals constituted an open invitation to keep this sensitive part of the world free from U.S. naval and military bases now situated in Oman, the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea. It added that the proposals palpably demonstrated that the USSR is a sincere friend of the Arab peoples.

The PFLO condemned the United States' rejection of the proposals and its insistence on maintaining its bases and fleets in the area. It said U.S. military presence in the region not only poses a threat to the Omani people and their national resources but is also a direct threat to the whole region.

BRIEFS

SATELLITE TRACKING STATION--Aden, 12 Dec (ANA)--The artificial satellite tracking ground station will begin operation during the first half of next year, declared Brother Kamal 'Abd ar-Rahim, the director general of the Yemeni Telecommunications Authority on his return to Aden from a visit to Algeria yesterday. He said that the delegation held talks with the Algerian brothers concerning the implementation of the ground station project, and he praised the Algerian Government's support for our country. [Text]
[Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Dec 80 LD]

AS-SADAT MEETS LINOWITZ, MAKES STATEMENT

Linowitz Meeting

NC151323 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat has said that he gave Sol Linowitz messages for President Carter, President-elect Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Begin.

In a statement after his meeting [today] with the U.S. envoy, President as-Sadat said that they had a detailed discussion and that Linowitz conveyed two messages to him from President Carter and President Reagan. He said: The new administration will assume office in January. I invited Sol Linowitz to pay a private visit to Cairo because it was difficult for his mission to attain the noble aim President Carter entrusted to him. The president then praised the efforts of the U.S. envoy.

At noon today, President as-Sadat received Sol [Linowitz], head of the U.S. delegation to the autonomy talks. U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton attended the meeting.

Sol Linowitz made a statement saying that every time he met with President as-Sadat problems were discussed in depth. He said that he conveyed a message to As-Sadat from President Carter and another from President-elect Reagan as well as assertions by the president-elect that he supported the Camp David accords and that no changes would occur without consultations with Egypt and Israel. Linowitz added that President as-Sadat stressed that he would do all he could to achieve the aim of the negotiations--the establishment of Palestinian autonomy, taking into consideration that Egypt was committed to the only course for achieving a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, the course of negotiations. Linowitz said that he would leave for Israel tomorrow for consultations with officials there.

Press Conference Statement

NC151530 Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Cairo, 15 Dec (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat received today Ambassador Sol Linowitz, personal envoy of U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his representative to the autonomy talks. Following the meeting which lasted for 75 minutes, President as-Sadat and U.S. envoy Sol Linowitz held a press conference. Following is the text of President as-Sadat's statement:

"Good morning. Let me seize this opportunity to thank my friend Sol for this visit. I have always enjoyed exchanging views with him. This time he has brought me messages from our dear friend President Carter and President-elect Ronald Reagan, and after very long discussions, I have asked him to convey three messages, one to President Carter, the second is to President Reagan and third to Premier Begin. As you know the handover of the administration will be on the 20th of next month. For that, I seized this opportunity and extended an invitation to my friend Sol to come and visit with us."

The president went on to say that "though each time he came he was very busy and he was, I mean, suffering, because he was doing his best to try and bring, I mean, all the possible ways for the reconstruction of the peace process." This time I am asking him to come as a free man who can have a lot of time to spend with us as a dear friend and to see Egypt, and I am happy to say that he has agreed and accepted by invitation so that I am very happy, and let me say this before I end my word. May his trip to Israel and then to the U.S. be a happy one after the efforts that he had really exerted in the last months, for the very noble cause that President Carter has put for him."

FIKRI 'UBAYD DENIES CABINET RESHUFFLE RUMOR

NC152135 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 Dec (MENA)--Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Permanent Council of the National Democratic Party, has denied a local newspaper report quoting him as saying that a Cabinet reshuffle will take place in January. 'Ubayd affirmed that this report is completely groundless, since he has made no statement hinting at a Cabinet reshuffle either directly or indirectly.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES TRIBUTARY INAUGURATION

NC160923 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 0757 GMT on 16 December began a live relay from Al-Jamil Airport in Port Said on the occasion of the inauguration of the third tributary of the Suez Canal.

At 0759 GMT the announcer noted that President as-Sadat had arrived in Port Said to open the celebrations, and that he was proceeding from the airport to the place in Port Said where he announced the reopening of the Suez Canal on 5 June 1975. As-Sadat arrived at the Suez Canal building dressed in the uniform of the supreme commander of the armed forces, the announcer noted. Then Mashhur Ahmad Mashhur, director of the Suez Canal Authority, gave a 13-minute speech lauding President as-Sadat and the opening of the new Suez Canal tributary, noting that the canal's revenues will total \$1.2 billion next year.

At 0856 GMT giving medals to the leading figures responsible for the work on the canal tributary, after President as-Sadat delivered a 9-minute speech noting that the events are an epic in Egypt's struggle. He said that he was at the same place where, 5 years earlier, he reopened the Suez Canal for the second time. He said that now the canal has again been reopened with the most advanced technology and that the Egyptian people are offering their canal as a means of prosperity, love and a new understanding of what relations must be based on--love instead of conflict, friendship instead of enmity, fraternity among mankind instead of power conflicts.

As-Sadat said that as he reopens the canal he is offering the world an Egypt that does not know the impossible, that is at the pinnacle of victory and achievement and that forgives those who participated in the Suez Canal project and withdrew, thinking it would be stopped. As-Sadat then invited the entire world to Egypt and its canal and congratulated all who worked on the project. He closed by noting that the fourth opening of the canal will be prepared for with the most modern technology and with Egypt's concept of the new relations of love, fraternity, equality and self-confidence that will pervade the unity of humanity and God.

As-Sadat then proceeded to a yacht in order to sail in the new Port Said tributary.

AS-SADAT SENDS GREETINGS TO ANTIQUITIES MEETING

NC151744 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 Dec (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent his greetings to the first international conference on the preservation of Cairo's Islamic antiquities which opened today. President as-Sadat pointed to the role which Egypt has played in promoting Islamic civilization since the emergence of Islam, affirming that this role has deep dimensions, not only for the Islamic and Arab worlds but also for the Western and Eastern worlds alike.

This was contained in a message which President as-Sadat sent to Mansur Hasan, minister of state for culture and information and chairman of the conference.

The following is the text of President as-Sadat's message:

I was greatly gladdened by the convening in Cairo of the first international conference on the preservation of Cairo's Islamic culture and heritage, which represent an honorable aspect of the Egyptian people's civilization.

The Egyptian people are a people who have a deep history of civilization, culture, thought and art. I am aware that the role which Egypt has played in promoting Islamic civilization since the emergence of Islam has deep dimensions, not only for the Islamic and Arab worlds but also for the Western and Eastern worlds alike. This role has been a beacon for mankind and a factor contributing to its strength and renaissance. Therefore, I am glad that you have invited the Egyptian Association of Antiquities Lovers and the Egyptian Antiquities Authority to convene this conference in order to preserve this heritage.

Please convey to the brother members of the conference, Egyptians and foreigners, my great esteem of their role. Please rest assured of the concern of the Egyptian president, government and people to preserve, protect and resurrect this heritage so that it may play its role in building mankind and furthering its progress. I wish the conference every success in the task.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS--Cairo, 13 Dec (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat received today credentials of six new ambassadors to the Arab Republic of Egypt. They are Carlo Masimo Anchiloti, an extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador for the Knights Group of Malta; Isoner Simon, an extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Rwanda in Cairo; Armando Cantu Medina, an extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador for Mexico in Cairo; Olli Johannes Auero, an extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador for Finland in Cairo; Hannes Jonson, an extraordinary and plenipotentiary Ambassador for Iceland in Cairo; Sisinio Mbana Nsoro, an extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador for the Equatorial Guinea in Cairo. The ceremony was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Grand Chamberlain Ahmad Fu'ad Taymur and acting ADC Major General Hasan 'Allam. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1310 GMT 13 Dec 80 NC]

MILITARY COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 180

JN151738 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1706 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Communique No 180 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 15 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With high morale and enthusiasm our armed forces continue to tighten their control over their operational sectors. The outcome of their activities last night and today is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel:

1. Enemy concentrations were sighted last night in front of our forward units' positions at the (Dana Khoshk) junction in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area. They were engaged with various arms and forced to retreat, leaving behind 12 dead.
2. One dead in the Sumar area.
3. Enemy concentrations and some enemy vehicles were sighted last night near the Bahmanshir Canal embankment in the Abadan area. Direct hits were scored on them with various arms and they were forced to retreat, leaving behind 57 dead, 2 106-mm guns and a large number of wounded. Ambulances were seen evacuating the wounded. Thus, total enemy losses in personnel is 70 dead.

B. One fuel reservoir in Abadan was hit and burned.

C. In equipment: Three vehicles loaded with personnel; one gun, one observation point, one steamshovel and one steamboat in the Karun River were destroyed.

D. Our helicopters today raided enemy military targets in Khafajiyeh [Susangerd] and hit enemy personnel concentrations, inflicting punishing blows.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 15 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: Two vehicles and one bulldozer were damaged.

C. At 1235, enemy aircraft raided civilian targets in (Al-Kamit) in the Maysan Governorate. Our ground resistance intercepted them and forced them to flee. Our losses in personnel are two wounded civilians.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 December 1980

BAGHDAD RADIO REPORTS ARABISTAN YOUTH OPERATIONS

JN131930 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] The Arabistan youth continue to carry out their heroic operations against the racist Persians in the various areas of Arabistan.

A spokesman for the Arabistan youth has told INA that on 10 December 1980 a group of the Arabistan youth, consisting of 13 fighters, ambushed a group of racist Persians near the Kirkkeh River. The Arabistan group rained a hail of fire on the racist Persians, killing four and wounding a large number. The rest took to their heels, leaving their dead behind.

On the same day, another group of the Arabistan youth, consisting of 19 fighters, attacked a racist Persian patrol consisting of several army vehicles equipped with guns. The Arabistan fighters used RPG-7's and machineguns in the attack, killing five and wounding several others. The rest took to their heels. The fighters seized a large quantity of military hardware, including handgrenades.

The spokesman said that, on 10 December 1980, a group of the Arabistan youth ambushed another enemy unit near the Karkheh River, killing two racist Persians and wounding four Khomeyni guards. The other members of the unit took to their heels.

On the same day, another group of the Arabistan youth consisting of 19 fighters ambushed another Iranian patrol near the Karkheh River, killing 2 racist Persians and wounding 4 others. The other members of the enemy patrol took to their heels, leaving their wounded behind.

The spokesman also announced that, on 10 December 1980, another group of the Arabistan youth ambushed an enemy unit near the village of (Al-Muhawdah) on the Karkheh River. During the ensuing clash, the Arabistan youth group managed to kill four racist Persians and to wound eight others.

On 11 December 1980, a group of the Arabistan youth consisting of five fighters clashed with a group of racist Persians who were trying to infiltrate a frontline Iraqi military position. The Arabistan youth opened up intensive fire on the infiltrators, who took to their heels, leaving behind two dead.

The spokesman said that, on the same day, another group of the Arabistan youth ambushed a racist Persian force near the Karkheh River, killing four racist Persians and wounding eight others.

DEPUTY PREMIER RECEIVES MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR

JN131720 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, today received Mauritanian ambassador in Baghdad (Mehboub Ould Boya) on the occasion of his assumption of his post. The discussion during this meeting dealt with the existing good relations between the two countries and the means of strengthening them so as to serve both fraternal countries along the course of achieving the nation's objective of unity.

DEPUTY PREMIER 'AZIZ LEAVES FOR HAVANA 15 DEC

JN151903 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1850 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Dec (INA)--Tariq 'Aziz, Ba'th Party national command member and deputy prime minister, left Baghdad en route to Havana this evening, leading a party delegation, in response to an invitation from the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC].

Tariq 'Aziz and his accompanying delegation will attend the second PCC congress, being held in the Cuban capital. The first PCC congress was held in December of 1976.

ROMANIAN ENVOY DISCUSSES BILATERAL RELATIONS

Arrival 14 Dec

JN141657 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Dec (INA)--Vasile Pungan, the Romanian president's adviser and trade minister [title as received], arrived here today as President Nicolae Ceausescu's personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn.

The Romanian envoy was received by Minister of State Hashim 'Aqrawi.

President's Meeting

JN151250 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Staff Marshal President Saddam Husayn, the commander in chief of the armed forces, this morning received Vasile Pungan, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu's personal envoy and top adviser.

During the meeting, Pungan conveyed the Romanian president's greetings and wishes to the Iraqi Government and people for further progress to bolster bilateral relations and to serve world peace. The discussion dealt with the relations between Iraq and Romania and the ways to boost them in the various fields and to expand the economic structure of the two friendly countries.

The meeting was attended by Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs and acting foreign minister.

Departure 15 Dec

JN151708 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Dec (INA)--Vasile Pungan, Romanian minister of state and President Nicolae Ceausescu's personal envoy, left Baghdad this evening.

Earlier today, President Saddam Husayn received the Romanian envoy for a discussion of bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them.

SAUDI ENVOY CARRIES MESSAGE TO SADDAM HUSAYN

Arrival 15 Dec

JN151450 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1438 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Dec (INA)--'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Saudi minister of education and personal envoy from King Khalid of Saudi Arabia to President Saddam Husayn, arrived here this afternoon. He told INA that he is carrying an oral message to President Saddam Husayn from his brother, His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He was received by Education Minister 'Abd al-Jabir 'Abd al-Majid and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

President's Meeting

JN152020 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Dec (INA)--Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces, received 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Saudi education minister and personal envoy of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, here tonight.

Al-Khuwaytir conveyed greetings to President Saddam Husayn from his brother His Majesty King Khalid and wishes to the Iraqi Government and people for further progress and prosperity in the service of the Arab nation and its fateful issues.

Discussion during the meeting, which was attended by Staff Lt Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, Revolution Command Council member and defense minister, dealt with the latest developments and events in the Arab arena, with fraternal bilateral relations and with ways of strengthening them in the service of the Arab nation.

Departure 16 Dec

JN160931 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 16 Dec (INA)--Saudi envoy 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Saudi education minister and personal envoy of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, left Baghdad today at the end of his 1-day visit to Iraq.

BAGHDAD IN KURDISH EXHORTS IRANIAN KURDS TO REBEL

JN121551 Baghdad Domestic Service in Surani Kurdish 1700 GMT 10 Dec 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear citizens, struggling Kurdish people in Iranian Kordestan: We meet with you at this time each day to put before you a picture of the evil conditions prevailing under Khomeyni's fascist regime. Some of our people are shedding their blood for the national rights of the Kurdish people in Iran and others are succumbing to the injustice, racism and oppression of the ayatollahs in Tehran and Qom, may God's curse be upon them. Our intention is to reveal the truth and expose the enemies of the Iranian peoples. Honest Iranians, join your voice to ours until Khomeyni's sanguinary regime is toppled and until the Kurdish people in Iran wrest autonomy for cherished Iranian Kordestan.

Dear listeners, we all know that our struggling Kurdish people in Iranian Kordestan played a prominent role in the struggle to overthrow the buried shah's regime by sacrificing hundreds of martyrs. Our people's objective was to create a free and democratic rule by which the Iranian peoples, particularly the Kurdish people, would receive their national rights. The Kurdish people have sacrificed a great deal for this objective. However, the political forces ignored their national rights and stood against them.

The opposite of this attitude can be particularly seen in Iraq, where the Kurdish problem is not ignored and relegated to the background. The Kurds in Iraq were given their autonomy by a nationalist and progressive party; namely, the fraternal Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

Let us once again return to Iran. Despite the struggle of the Kurdish people in Iran to overthrow the shah's regime, nothing has been done for them. The Kurdish people in Iran thus wonder: Why did we make all these sacrifices? Did we sacrifice so that a clique of fake ayatollahs would come to power under the guise of religion to practice barbarism and chauvinism against us?

The Kurdish people in Iran thought that an upheaval was necessary. Following the upheaval, the regime wanted to exterminate the Kurdish people. It launched a large-scale land and air attack. Khomeyni began to beat the war drums, accompanied by Bani-Sadr, and Khalkhali, the dragon, began his savage practices against the Kurdish people. The Iranian Army used the most lethal U.S.-made weapons and the guards and mercenaries persecuted the Kurdish people in Iran.

Our people were forced to resort to arms to continue the struggle and defend their honor, dignity and national soil. The Kurds in the mountains and plains of Iranian Kordestan, in the towns and villages of Kordestan and in the streets of Mahabad, Sanandaj, Saqqez, Kameron, Paveh, Urumiyeh and Baneh began to walk tall and hold their heads high. The sons of the Kurdish people and the grandsons of Qadi Muhammad Khalid and Kawa revolted and carried out fedayeen operations to seize the just rights of the Kurdish people in Kordestan and to avenge the martyrs who had fallen at the hands of the so-called revolution guards and mercenaries, who have sold themselves to the devil. The Kurdish nation in Iran rose against the barbaric onslaughts of the evil military forces in Iran.

The rulers of Iran began an economic blockade against Kordestan. Medication, fuel and even powdered milk were barred from reaching the Kurdish people in Iranian Kordestan. The factories stopped operating and the poor became unemployed. The towns became centers of black markets. They recruited mercenaries and guards to loot and plunder.

This is Khomeyni's Islamic rule in Iran. It deprives the people of Kordestan of bread and water and kills millions of Muslims in the name of Islam. However, Islam dissociates itself from the savage practices of Khomeyni and his clique. The dirty practices of this filthy clique in Iranian Kordestan run counter to all norms and religious values.

Our Kurdish people in Iranian Kordestan must learn a lesson from Khomeyni's hypocritical clique. They should exert all their efforts and use all the weapons they have against Khomeyni to expose him before the Iranian peoples until these peoples, particularly the Kurdish people, are delivered from his sanguinary policy.

Forward until victory. The struggle of the Kurdish people in Iranian Kordestan will triumph. Death and disgrace to Khomeyni's dirty regime.

VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN MAKES ANTI-REGIME REMARKS

Praise for Al-Qadhdhafi

JN121918 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1530 GMT 10 Dec 80

[Station commentary: "The Statement of Brother Al-Qadhdhafi Indicates the Justice of Our Kurdish Nation's Cause"]

[Text] Dear listeners: We previously broadcast the statements made by Libyan President brother Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi and then emphasized that the Kurdish nation has the right to establish its own national and independent state [words indistinct]. Brother al-Qadhdhafi's statements further indicate the Libyan president's friendly and humanitarian concepts. These statements also further support our nation's just cause.

This is the time for the liberation of peoples and for their social progress. In the 1960's, all peoples who were under occupation rose to liberate themselves and obtain their national rights. They rose to achieve democracy and their national independence. Most of those peoples were from Asia, Africa and Latin America and they were able to achieve what they rose for.

As for our Kurdish nation, which is one of the biggest in this world, it has not yet achieved its national rights, although this nation has not spared any sacrifices and has been struggling to achieve its objectives. Our Kurdish people's objective is to achieve autonomy in the various countries where Kurds live. [words indistinct] and this just Kurdish cause has been and is being supported by the free among the Arabs. The late Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir used to call for solving the Kurdish issue by fraternal and peaceful methods because this would serve the interests of the Arab and Kurdish peoples and would bolster the fraternal bonds between them.

As for Al-Qadhdhafi, he is a revolutionary and progressive Arab leader who opposes reaction, Zionism and imperialism. He looks at our cause from a fraternal and revolutionary angle. In an earlier statement, Al-Qadhdhafi said that the Kurds form a nation which has not yet achieved its national rights in the Middle East area.

Dear citizens, this is a stand which we highly regard and feel proud of, especially since it is the stand of an Arab leader who expresses support for our nation's rights. This further points out the justness of our cause, the cause which has not yet been solved, the cause which should be solved. Solving the Kurdish issue on the bases [words indistinct] will not only be in favor of the Kurdish people's interests, but will also be in favor of the interests of all the peoples living in this area, particularly the peoples among whom the Kurds are living, such as the Arabs, the Turks and the Persians. Not solving the Kurdish issue will only bring harm to the peoples of this area.

Therefore, it has become rather necessary to reach a solution for the Kurdish issue in a fraternal and democratic manner so that the peoples of the area can live in peace together.

Victory will be always for peoples. Long live the fraternity of the Arab and Kurdish nations. Long live solidarity among the various peoples of the world and their struggle for the establishment of peace, democracy and socialism.

Executions 24 Nov

JN121836 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1530 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] The fascist racist Ba'thist regime continues to perpetrate more and more crimes against the sons of our Iraqi people--Arabs, Kurds and other minorities.

Citing a reliable source in Mosul, the first branch of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan reports that the organs of the dictatorial regime have executed 19 Kurdish strugglers. On the night of 24-25 November 1980, 19 of the sons of our Kurdish party were martyred by the butchers of the fascist regime. These martyrs were comrades and members of our Democratic Party of Kurdistan, the Iraqi Communist Party and the Unified Socialist Kurdish Party. Furthermore, 61 other citizens in Mosul have been sentenced to death.

BAGHDAD NOTES REPORTS ON IRAN'S ECONOMIC SITUATION

GF141242 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Arrivals in Abu Dhabi from Iran have confirmed that the economic situation in Iran is deteriorating and that Iran is fragmented and drowning in chaos under the rule of Khomeyni's ignorant clique. An Iranian citizen from Shiraz said that the fronts of important buildings in Tehran and other Iranian cities had been covered with slogans calling for the overthrow of the ignorant ruling group and the rescue of the Iranian people from their misery. This indicates that the end of this racist regime is close at hand.

The citizen added that the Iranian people's cries against the racist Khomeyni clique have become louder. People have begun to attack the clique openly because of the actions of the racist regime and Khomeyni's savage guards and because of the attitude of the regime's news media, which are deceitful and distort the facts about the internal situation.

SYRIAN SILENCE ON ISRAEL TROOP MOVES QUESTIONED

JN151833 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A few days before Hafiz al-Asad beat his war drums against fraternal Jordan and massed his troops along the Jordanian border, and during the Syrian regime's hysterical campaign against Jordan that accompanied the troop concentrations, the Zionist enemy proceeded to increase the number of its forces deployed on its border with the Arab frontline states, particularly on the Syrian heights.

In fact, reports from the occupied territory, Beirut and Damascus say that recent days have witnessed an unusual movement by the Zionist forces on the Syrian heights and in the West Bank. Zionist forces were seen being moved toward these regions, particularly on the heights and inside the occupied West Bank.

What was the Syrian regime's reaction to such reports? What did the bastion of steadfastness and confrontation do in response to them?

Everyone expected that caution would at least require that such procedures be met with similar procedures. Everyone expected the Syrian authorities to carry out an intensive deployment of its forces on the Golan front, in order to confront any possible attack by the Zionist enemy.

This was the expected procedure, which should have been adopted. However, what actually happened was that Al-Asad's regime responded to such Zionist procedures by withdrawing its remaining forces from the Golan front and dispatching these forces to the Jordanian border, after fabricating a dispute with Jordan and massing its troops, thus threatening to attack Jordan, under various justifications.

At the same time, the agent regime in Damascus agreed to extend the mandate of the UN disengagement observer force which is stationed in the Golan.

On the Arab level, Hafiz al-Asad led a campaign of slander against the results of the Amman summit, after having failed to prevent the convocation of this summit and to undermine its work. This is not to mention his disgraceful and ignominious stand in support of the Persian regime against revolutionary Iraq, which is waging a heroic and just battle against the Persian aggressors, and his continuing plots against Iraq.

The Damascus regime's mass media did not comment on the latest Zionist procedures and the decision to annex the Golan, but to repeat what Damascus radio said: Namely, that such procedures are considered aggressive acts against Syria.

If these are aggressive acts; if Al-Asad's regime, which, according to its own allegations and slogans, is actually preparing for the battle of liberation and--along with its (axis?)--is biding its time for that day; and if the Syrian regime is crying about Iraqi strength, which as it alleges, is being wasted in the war with Iran, why doesn't it reply to such an aggressive act? Indeed, what is it waiting for?

Is there anything that is more aggressive than the Zionization of the Golan and the continuing massing of Zionist troops along the line of confrontation with the Arab states?

The apostate regime in Damascus does not even wish to liberate the Syrian Golan Heights. Nor is this regime capable of doing so, as a result of the dictatorial policy it directs against the Syrian people and the aggressive and traitorous policy it directs against the Arab people generally and the Palestinian issue particularly. The battle of liberation needs a sincere national leadership, which enjoys the respect and appreciation of its people. However, this is not the case with Al-Asad's clique. The earth is shaking under this clique's feet, as a result of the escalating wrath of the masses all over Syria in protest against the regime's dictatorial and treasonous policy. This regime's true colors have been revealed to everyone, despite the various guises behind which it hides.

The events and nature of the situation all over Syria affirm that this regime will not last. The Syrian people will not remain silent on all of these treasonous acts. They will inevitably put an end to those traitorous heretics.

MINISTER SUPPORTS 'GRADUAL' OIL PRICE INCREASES

JN1222228 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2115 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 12 Dec (INA)--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, oil minister and Revolution Command Council member, has asserted that the financial and economic conditions in Iraq are sound despite the circumstances of the war imposed upon it. In an interview with Kuwait television this evening, he said: Our economy is strong and good despite the fact that the war with the Persian regime has been raging for 2 and 1/2 months.

Referring to the opportunities which Iraq gave Iran and to the good intentions it demonstrated, from a position of strength and ability, to end the war, 'Abd al-Karim said that Iran's intransigence confirmed that it does not care for its people and economy. He added: We have adapted ourselves and our economy to coexist with the requisites of a protracted war in a manner that insures the continued implementation of future development and investment programs. He said: Our people in all their sectors carry a rifle in one hand and build with the other. We are prepared to coexist with the circumstances of the war and to continue our development.

On Iraq's oil policy, Tayih 'Abd al-Karim said: Our policy is firm. It has not and will not change. It is based on production that takes into consideration the circumstances of the international market. Our pricing policy is also firm and rejects the freezing of prices as long as inflation continues and as long as the value of the dollar continues to drop and eat up our oil revenues. At the same time, however, we are against price jumps because they upset the world market. We support gradual price increases that take into consideration inflation rates and the devaluation of the dollar.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI VISITS KATMANDU

For Katmandu media coverage of the visit to Nepal by Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi, see the Nepal subsection of the Other Countries section of the 16 December South Asia DAILY REPORT.

HAMMADI IN THAILAND FOR 4-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

For reportage on the visit by Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi to Thailand, see the Thailand section of the 16 December and subsequent issues of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

MEMBERS OF PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATION TO LIBYA

JN141931 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad will leave Damascus for Tripoli tomorrow, leading a party and government delegation to meet with brother Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution, and with the members of the political leadership in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, to complete their discussion of the principles and formulae of unity between the two fraternal countries, Syria and Libya.

The delegation accompanying the president will comprise Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party assistant regional secretary; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, minister of information; 'Abd al-Ghani Gannut, member of the Progressive National Front Central Command; Darwish az-Zuni, member of the Progressive National Front Central Command; and Dr As'ad Darqawi, minister of higher education.

ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS FOR TALKS

12 Dec Arrival

JN122225 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia arrived in Damascus at 2000 tonight on a 2-day official visit to the country. While here, Ben Yahia will hold talks on the current situation in the Arab area.

Speaking to a SANA correspondent, Ben Yahia said his visit to Syria is both a working and fraternal visit. He added that it has become necessary in the current Arab situation to consult the brothers in Syria and to discuss the conditions now prevailing in the Arab East. He pointed out that these consultations with the Syrian officials are something quite natural, particularly if we take into consideration Syria's pan-Arab role for the sake of the Palestine question and its struggle for the emancipation of the occupied Arab territories. The Algerian foreign minister asserted that Algeria will continue to support the Arab struggle for the liberation of Palestine and the entire occupied Arab territories.

Khaddam Meeting

JN131126 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--At 0930 today 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia. Discussions at the meeting focused on the new developments in the Arab situation.

Al-Asad Reception

JN131651 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] At 1245 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia in the presence of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

During the meeting, Ben Yahia conveyed a message to His Excellency President al-Asad from his brother Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The message dealt with the current Arab situation. Talks during the meeting centered on the recent developments in the Arab area and the means capable of bolstering the Arab capabilities in order to foil the designs which are intended to undermine the Palestine question and the Arab rights in general. President al-Asad asked Ben Yahia to convey a reply message, coupled with his greetings, to His Excellency President Bendjedid.

14 Dec Departure

JN141352 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia left Damascus for Kuwait at 1000 today after a 2-day visit to Syria, during which he delivered a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from his brother, President Chadli Bendjedid. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; senior officials; and the Algerian ambassador and embassy officials in Damascus.

IRAQI OPPOSITION FRONT DELEGATION TO TRIPOLI

JN130849 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] A delegation of the Iraqi Democratic National and Patriotic Front will arrive in Tripoli today. It will meet with leaders of the 1 September Revolution to submit a detailed explanation of our people's struggle in Iraq under the Democratic National and Patriotic Front against the fascist regime of Saddam Husayn and his oppressive and rancorous practices against our people in fraternal Iraq.

The delegation will also brief the Libyan leaders on the vile role played for the sake of implementing reactionary and imperialist designs. The delegation will also explain Saddam's involvement in sideshow battles aimed at isolating Iraq from carrying out its pan-Arab duties in the Arab nation's battles, particularly in the major Arab issue, Palestine, thus plunging Iraq into a political crisis that cannot be overcome except by toppling Saddam's regime and by replacing it with a national coalition government which will achieve democracy and freedom in Iraq and enable it to play its effective role in the Arab struggle.

ANTI-IRAQ FRONT HAILS SYRIA, CONDEMNS IRAQ, JORDAN

JN131719 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--Members of the Democratic National and Patriotic Front of Iraq have asserted that the most important reason behind choosing Damascus as the site from which to announce the establishment of the front is that Damascus is the focus of attention of the national, progressive and revolutionary powers in the area. In a dialogue with the daily paper TISHRIN, members of the front condemned Saddam Husayn regime's practices against the Iraqi people and the Arab nation. They said in this regard that Saddam's regime intends to abridge the role of Arab Iraq through the launching of his mad war against Iran. They also condemned King Husayn's support for Saddam's regime in the war against Iran. They stressed that King Husayn wants to avenge his ally the shah against the revolution.

Members of the front renewed their blessings of the Syrian-Libyan merger. They explained that the front has pledged to struggle for the liberation of Iraq and the preparation of all necessary requirements so that Iraq can join this merger unity. They asserted that the Syrian Arab-Soviet friendship treaty constitutes a great national and pan-Arab gain because Syria has chosen the path of fighting to bring about victory.

YAR DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL FRONT GROUP IN DAMASCUS

Arrival Report

JN132203 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] A YAR Democratic National Front delegation under Yahya ash-Shami arrived in Damascus this evening on a week-long visit to Syria. The visit comes at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command.

V. 16 Dec 80

While here, the guest delegation will hold political and party talks with a number of the comrade members of the Ba'th Party leadership. The delegation members will be acquainted with the accomplishments achieved in the country under the leadership of the party and its secretary general, President of the Republic Hafiz al-Asad.

Speaking to a SANA correspondent, Ash-Shami praised the national leading role played by Syria, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, in the confrontation against imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Ash-Shami said that this visit comes within the framework of continuous consultation and exchange of viewpoints on the various developments in the Arab area as well as the struggle between the national and democratic powers in the Arab homeland on the one hand, and imperialism, Zionism and reaction on the other.

Concluding his statement, Ash-Shami said that members of the delegation will discuss with the Ba'th Party leadership's officials the situation in the Arabian Peninsula, particularly in the YAR.

Talks With Ba'th Party

JN142216 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--Talks were held at the Ba'th Party National Command headquarters tonight between the Ba'th Party delegation under comrade Muhammad Haydar, National Command member and head of the foreign relations office, and the YAR Democratic National Front delegation under Comrade Yahya ash-Shami. The talks were attended by Comrade 'Abd al-Hafiz Nu'man, Regional Command member and the head of the Arab Peninsula and Gulf office at the National Command.

Discussion centered on the latest Arab developments, the fierce imperialist, Zionist and reactionary onslaught against the Arab nation and means of confronting and defeating this onslaught. The two sides' views were identical on the issues discussed, particularly on the ambiguities that accompanied the convocation of the Amman summit and on Iraq's and Jordan's goals in convening this conference: to achieve an Arab cover for Jordan's conspiracies against Syria, for Jordan's support for the Muslim Brotherhood organization gangs of murder and sabotage inside Syria, and for Jordan's treasonous role in attempting to meet with the Camp David conspiracy and complete it; and to force Arab support for the dirty war launched by Saddam Husayn against the Iranian revolution.

Comrade Yahya ash-Shami expressed appreciation for the militant role of the Ba'th Party and its revolution in Syria, under the leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic, manifested in the firm confrontation of the Camp David conspiracy and the defeat of all of its results, particularly the party's recent role in defeating the Jordanian and Iraqi scheme, which is supported by imperialism, Zionism and reactionary regimes.

Comrade Haydar stressed the support of our party and its revolution for the struggle of the Democratic National Front in the YAR, which is part of the struggle waged by the Arab revolution forces in the Arab homeland against the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary schemes against the Arab nation and its ambitions.

ALGERIAJOINT-ALGERIA MOZAMBIQUE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED 13 DEC

LD140412 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Dec 80

["Text" of joint communique issued at the close of Mozambique President Samora Moises Machel's 8-12 December visit to Algeria]

[Text] At the invitation of Chadli Bendjedid, the president of the Democratic and popular Republic of Algeria and the secretary general of the FLN, His Excellency Samora Moises Machel, the chairman of the Frelimo Party and the president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, paid a friendly, official visit to Algeria between 8 and 12 December, 1980. During the visit of President Samora Moises Machel and his entourage, the delegation visited a number of agricultural, industrial and technical projects. They acquainted themselves with Algeria's efforts to consolidate its independence in all domains.

Official talks took place between the two presidents in the presence of the delegations of the two countries. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship, solidarity and mutual understanding, reflecting the nature of the fraternal ties between the two countries, ties which find their strength in the joint experience of struggling for national liberation. Those historical ties find their emphasis and extension in the new society in both countries, free from the exploitation of man by man and, on the international level, in the one and same battle against imperialism, old and new colonialism as well as racism and Zionism.

The talks were followed with a wide exchange of views about domestic developments in the two countries, the status of bilateral relations and international issues. President Samora Machel expressed great admiration for the successes of the Algerian people in building a socialist society under the leadership of the FLN and the traditional Algerian policy of active support for and solidarity with the Mozambique people's armed struggle against colonialism, especially in the cause of national liberation.

On his part, President Chadli Bendjedid saluted the great victories of the Mozambique revolution under the leadership of the Frelimo Party in building socialism. He lauded the sacrifices made by the Mozambique people and leaders and their contribution toward the struggle of the Zimbabwean people out of their loyalty to the traditions of African solidarity against colonialism and imperialism.

On reviewing bilateral relations, the two sides expressed their satisfaction at current developments. They confirmed once again their conviction of the necessity of developing fruitful cooperation for the benefit of both sides. Such cooperation should be in tune with the aspirations of the two peoples for progress and prosperity. They expressed their readiness to exert their utmost in order that cooperation might embrace all domains and intensify exchanges. In that respect the two presidents adopted tangible measures which would intensify Algerian-Mozambique relations. Within this framework, an agreement was reached covering all fields of cooperation and calling for the formation of a mixed Algerian-Mozambique committee.

The two presidents studied the international situation in Africa and in other parts of the world. They noted with satisfaction the identity of their views concerning all the topics they studied. The two sides reviewed the serious problems Africa is facing. They noted that the basic rights of peoples for independence, consolidation of their independence, progress in the social and economic fields and the establishment of international peace clash with the political, economic and military threats and pressures of the imperialists. The two sides agreed that the imperialist intentions in the various parts of Africa are aimed at hindering its all-round liberation and creating and maintaining hotbeds of tensions with the aim of undermining the countries which are working to consolidate their national independence by weakening support for them.

Dealing with the situation in the southern part of Africa, the two presidents warmly saluted Zimbabwe's independence after the armed struggle waged by the people of that country against the colonialist, racist regime. They also congratulated the people of Zimbabwe on confirming their confidence--by means of democratic, free elections--in the forces that had led them during the armed struggle. The two sides declared their readiness to render their fraternal cooperation in the cause of developing and consolidating independent Zimbabwe under the leadership of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

As to Namibia, the two sides reconfirmed their solidarity with SWAPO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Namibian people. They deplored the maneuvers of the Viljoen regime which, in collaboration with imperialism, is trying to consolidate its domination by means of establishing a puppet regime. They also demanded the immediate implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 435 as the basis for the solution of the Namibian question and a guarantee for responding to the legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people. The two presidents saluted the growing victories of the struggle of the people of Southern Africa against the inhuman segregation policy. They strongly condemned the provocative, aggressive, repeated practices carried out by Pretoria against Angola and Zambia. They demanded an immediate halt to them.

Concerning the situation in northwest Africa, the two sides expressed their profound anxiety at the present tension resulting from the occupation by Moroccan forces of the Western Sahara. They renewed their firm condemnation of the expansionist policy of the Moroccan regime. They expressed their firm solidarity with the people of the Western Sahara in the struggle for freedom and independence under the leadership of the Polisario Front, their sole legitimate representative. They saluted the diplomatic and military victories brought about by the SDAR [Saharan Democratic Arab Republic], whose arrival on the international arena proves the legitimacy and justice of the Western Sharan people. They recalled that the United Nations and the OAU have drawn up the ways and means to find a just, peaceful solution. Therefore, the two sides expressed their belief that direct negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario are likely to lead toward a final solution to the Western Sahara question.

Studying the situation in the Indian Ocean, the two sides expressed anxiety over the establishment of foreign bases in the region and their use for the provocative purposes of domination and exploitation. While the two sides believe that those bases directly threaten peace in the world and in the countries of the region, they salute the initiatives and efforts to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

Analyzing the prevailing situation in the Middle East, the two sides confirmed their absolute condemnation of the Camp David accords, pointing out the seriousness of their effect on the freedom of the peoples of the Middle East as well as on peace and security (?there). The two sides expressed once again their conviction that no just, lasting peace can be achieved without the participation of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, without the recognition of this people's firm right to establish an independent state and without the evacuation from the occupied lands, including holy Jerusalem. The two sides renewed their firm support for the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO.

The two sides discussed, with great concern, the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran. They reached the conclusion that a speedy, peaceful solution should be found for this conflict between two countries of the nonaligned movement. After expressing their anxiety at the growing tension in developing countries, they reconfirmed their absolute adherence to the principals and ideals of the nonaligned movement.

They pointed out that the policy of that movement was still an important factor in liberating and emancipating peoples, resolving international issues and promoting international cooperation on the basis of equality and in the cause of maintaining peace and security in the world.

The two sides expressed their conviction that reinforcing solidarity among developing countries was an essential factor in establishing the bases of cooperation between Algeria and Mozambique. In this respect they confirmed their determination to work tirelessly in the cause of independence [words indistinct] and solidarity among developing countries. The two sides renewed their intention to coordinate their efforts and cooperate closely within the international organizations, especially the OAU, in order to contribute toward the issues of peace and the triumph of the principles mentioned in the OAU charter, which they considered an excellent instrument by which to achieve the objectives of complete national liberation in Africa. The two sides confirmed their firm adherence to the principles and objectives of the United Nations, confirming again the role of the United Nations in safeguarding peace in the world and promoting international cooperation.

The two sides agreed to work by all means to consolidate relations between the two countries, whether on the party or state level.

The two presidents expressed satisfaction at the result of the visit to Algeria of the chairman of the Frelimo party, His Excellency President Samora Machel, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and the accompanying delegation. They considered that it had effectively contributed toward strengthening the ties of friendship, solidarity and cooperation between the two countries as well as consolidating African solidarity.

President Samora Moises Machel, on his own and on behalf of the accompanying delegation, thanked President Chadli Bendjedid and the FLN as well as the Algerian Government and people for the warm welcome and fraternal reception accredited to them during their stay in Algiers. President Samora Machel extended an invitation to President Chadli Bendjedid to pay an official visit to the People's Republic of Mozambique. President Chadli Bendjedid accepted the invitation with pleasure.

LIBYA

SITUATION, DEVELOPMENTS IN CHAD REPORTED

French Attitude

LD151014 Tripoli JANA in English 0901 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Yaounde, 15 Dec (Jamahiriya News Agency)--The Government of Chadian National Unity headed by Oueddei Goukouni expressed regret at the French statement over so-called foreign intervention in Chad. A spokesman for the government told the French news agency that Chad cannot understand this French attitude, especially that the civil war in Chad is drawing to a close. The spokesman warned against French intervention in Chad's internal affairs pointing to the presence of French troops in the neighbouring countries.

Military Situation Reports

LD151410 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] The CHADIAN NEWS AGENCY said a garrison of the forces of rebel Habre have joined the legitimate government forces led by Oueddei Goukouni. AFP said this garrison, the Oum Hadjer Garrison between Ati and Abeche, is regarded as a major base of supplies for the forces of rebel Habre.

The Italian paper PAESE SERA today stressed the forces of the Chadian Government now encircled the remnants of rebel Habre, and that the fall of the Abeche base to the forces of the Government of National Unity is imminent. Quoting a statement by the official spokesman for the Chadian Government, the paper said most of the African quarter in the Chadian capital is in the hands of the legitimate forces after the national forces had taken Ati.

Control of Ndjamen

LD161034 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0115 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] JANA has learned that an official spokesman for the Chad National Government has announced that national government forces are in full control of the capital, Ndjamen, after completely driving the remnants of the rebel Habre out of it. The official Chad source has explained that it is now only a question of rebuilding the town, of reviving it and of coming to the rescue of the citizens by offering medical treatment and help.

Hissein Habre was forced to flee last night from Ndjamen which fell to the Chad National Government. An AFP correspondent in Kousseri, a town on the Cameroon border, has reported that Habre's forces, exhausted by the battles of midday of the day before yesterday took refuge in Kousseri, where they said that they were among the last forces to leave Ndjamen. The correspondent adds that with the capture of Ati in central Chad and with the Oum Hadjer garrison joining [the National Government] the rear base for Habre's forces in eastern Chad is totally cut off. Other reports have said that the rebel Habre destroyed the Chad Broadcasting Service building and also blew up his headquarters before his escape.

Libyan Aid Committee

LD161036 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Dec (JANA)--A committee under the supervision of the secretary of the General People's Committee for Health and secretary of the General People's Committee for Social Security has been set up in response to the appeal of the people of Chad made by the Chadian Government to take charge of sending urgent medical and food aid to the people of Chad to help them to overcome their suffering, and to heal their wounds following the tragedies suffered as a result of the insurgence and rebellion.

AL-QADHDHAFI, AL-ASAD MEET; UNITY TALKS BEGIN

LD160024 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] The brother leader and President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, held a closed meeting tonight which lasted for some time, after which unity talks began between the Libyan Arab and the Syrian sides.

Press Statements

JN160544 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Benghazi--The Syrian side, led by President Hafiz al-Asad, and the Libyan side, under brother Col Mu'ammr al-Qadhafi, will resume their official talks this morning. The talks will revolve around the basis and formula of unity between the two fraternal countries. The official discussions between the Syrian and Libyan sides on the basis and formula of unity began at 2100 last night. During the meeting, which ended at 2330, talks centered on the basic and general principles of unity between the two fraternal countries based on the plan submitted by the Syrian side.

President Hafiz al-Asad has made the following statement: We came to complete what we had begun at the past meeting: the discussion of the most important issue concerning the Arabs and the Arab nation. I mean here the issue of unity between the two fraternal countries: Syria and Libya. The imperialist moves we are witnessing now should prompt us to swiftly achieve this great objective: the unity objective. Unity remains the best weapon to confront the imperialist moves in the area and all other anti-Arab moves connected with them. Just as our nation had struggled for a long time in the past against those exploiting it and those who were trying to subjugate it as well as against all the imperialist factions, we, likewise, are now struggling with the same strength and violence against our enemies. Just as our nation had triumphed over its enemies, we are optimistic and confident that we will triumph over our enemies, because we are right and are the owners of a just cause.

We came to this dear country carrying the warmest greetings from every citizen in Syria to every citizen in Libya. It is the hope of everyone that we should forge ahead in a practical and serious manner along the road of unity. This is the responsibility that we, the leaders in Syria and Libya, have decided to shoulder. We in the two countries aspire to be at the level of hope pinned on us by our masses not only in the two countries, but also in all the Arab countries.

In a statement to the Syrian television network, brother Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi said: Indeed, the political and technical aspects of unity have been ended and decided upon. What remains is the executive administrative procedures on which a decision will certainly and determinedly be made at this meeting.

REPORTAGE ON AT-TURAYKI'S TOUR OF AFRICA

Togo Visit

LD150030 Tripoli JANA in English 1422 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Lome, 14 Dec (JANA)--The Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema yesterday evening received the foreign secretary Dr. 'Ali at-Turayki who delivered a letter from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. During the meeting, President Eyadema stressed the deep relationships and strategic alliance that binds the Jamahiriyah and Togo.

The Togolese president said his country is committed to the implementation of the Lagos agreement on Chadian national reconciliation. President Eyadema expressed appreciation for the role played by the Jamahiriyah in support of African freedom, independence and development. He said he believed African problems should be solved by Africans. Discussions also included African, Arab and international issues of mutual interest to both sides.

Zaire Visit

LD150044 Tripoli JANA in English 1750 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Dec (JANA)--The foreign secretary Dr. 'Ali at-Turayki yesterday evening conferred with Zaire's prime minister and delivered a letter from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to President Mobutu. Dr. at-Turayki also discussed methods of enhancing bilateral relations. In this respect, agreement was reached on holding the Arab committee's forthcoming meeting within a few days in Tripoli. The Zairian premier expressed appreciation for the Jamahiriyah's African policies and its support for African liberation movements. He also expressed total understanding for the Jamahiriyah's viewpoint on Chad which aims to bring peace and stability to the country.

Madagascar Minister

LD150956 Tripoli JANA in English 0850 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Dec (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--Dr. at-Turayki yesterday met the foreign minister of Madagascar, who expressed his country's support for the efforts exerted by the Jamahiriya to achieve security in Chad. He also affirmed his country's commitment to implement and support the legitimate government in Chad in accordance with the African summit. Bilateral relations and matters of mutual interests were discussed.

15 Dec Return

LD151508 Tripoli JANA in English 1416 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Dec (JANA)--The foreign secretary yesterday ended his African tour to Nigeria, Cameroon, People's Republic of Congo, Zaire and Togo. He delivered messages from the leader of the revolution to the heads of states he visited. The foreign secretary also held talks and contacts on bilateral relations and the latest developments in Africa. The heads of states expressed appreciation towards the Jamahiriya's efforts for peace and stability in Chad and called for implementation of Lagos agreement of national reconciliation and support the legitimate government in Chad.

The foreign secretary conveyed to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi the African leaders' greetings and appreciation towards the Jamahiriya's greetings and appreciation towards the Jamahiriya's support to the African liberation movements and its efforts in the interests of freedom and progress in Africa.

FORMER IRAQI MINISTER SUPPORTS AL-QADHDHAFI STANDS

LD121400 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] The leader of the revolution has received a message from former minister of state in the government of Saddam Husayn, Brother 'Aziz Rashid 'Aqrawi. Here is the text:

Brother leader, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: Revolutionary greetings. At a time when the fascist dictatorial authority in Iraq is carrying out the ugliest repressive and racist methods against the sons of our Kurdish people with the aim of destroying their identity and annihilating them under the slogan of the spurious implementation of the autonomy law for the Kurdistan region, I am happy with the historic speech which you delivered at the international seminar devoted to the study of the Green Book, particularly your scientific and daring humane stand toward the cause of our Kurdish people, the permanent ally of the Arab nation, and its central issue the Palestinian question which is our question and that of the Islamic nation.

Brother colonel: Your dignified pan-Arab stand toward the fateful issues in the region, including your declaration of immediate unity between your country and sister Syria, and your firm steadfastness toward the imperialist forces and their Zionist and reactionary pillar and their designs, are a live expression of your human conscience these were highly appreciated by the masses of our Iraqi people, both Arabs and Kurds.

[Signed] 'Aziz Rashid 'Aqrawi, former Iraqi minister.

KURDISH SOCIALISTS SEND MESSAGE TO AL-QADHDHAFI

LD131454 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0115 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] The Kurdish Socialist Party [Al-Hizb al-Ishtiraki al-Kurdi] has lauded the position adopted by the leader of the great 1 September revolution on the Kurdish problem and his explanations of the right of the Kurds to self-determination.

The party, in a telegram to the brother leader, stresses that the Kurds will not forget this genuine, daring position and that they will record it in (highlighted) letters. The party's telegram made it clear that the voice of the leader of the great 1 September revolution will continue to destroy evil and will reverbrate in the hearts of Kurds for generations. The Kurdish Socialist Party has also confirmed the position of the Kurdish masses with regard to the great 1 September revolution and the Arab nation.

MAURITANIA

MILITARY COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES NEW GOVERNMENT

AB160959 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Excerpts] The ninth ordinary session of the Military Committee of National Salvation [CMSN] was held on Monday, 15 December 1980, under the chairmanship of Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the CMSN and head of state. During this session, the CMSN heard a report from its president on the economic situation of the country. By maintaining every effort and by following the path drawn by the CMSN, Mauritania is heading toward a better future of peace, prosperity and justice.

Continuing the examination of the president's report and the report presented by the secretary to the CMSN, the committee decided to tackle the CMSN's program of 10 July 1978, namely the establishment of democratic institutions. Thus a draft constitution has been drawn up and will soon be submitted for public debate before being submitted to a referendum. This draft constitution, which expresses the profound aspirations of the people and in which the fundamental freedoms are guaranteed, will never give the people a dictatorial regime.

Finally, the following government was set up:

Prime Minister	Ahmed Ould Bneijara
Secretary of State for Defense	Lt Col Soumare Silman
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	Mohamed Mokhtar Ould Zamel
Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs	Abdel Aziz Ould Ahmed
Minister of Interior	Baham Ould Mohamed Laghaf
Minister of Information and Telecommunication	Ahmedou Ould Sidi
Minister of Economy and Finance	Ahmed Ould Zein
Minister of Fisheries	Soumare Omar
Minister of Mine and Energy	Sidahmed Ould Taya
Minister of Industries and Commerce	Cissoko Mamadou
Minister of Transport and Equipment	Daffa Bakary
Minister of Water and Housing	Louleid Ould Weddad
Minister of Rural Development	Mohamed Ould Amar
Minister of National Education	Hassini Ould Didi
Minister of Employment and Cadre Training	Yaya Ould Menkouss
Minister of Health and Social Affairs	Diagana Youssouf
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports	Ba Mahmoud
Secretary General at the Presidency and Government	Mohamed Yedih Ould Breidelleil

MOROCCOCOOPERATION TALKS HELD WITH EQUATORIAL GUINEA

LD151029 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 21 Nov 80 pp 1, 5

[MAP report: "Morocco Is Determined To Develop Its Bilateral Cooperation With Equatorial Guinea in All Spheres"]

[Text] Fes, 21 November--On Thursday morning Prime Minister and Justice Minister Maati Bouabid and Equatorial Guinea Foreign Minister Florencio Mbaye chaired a Fes provincial headquarters working session devoted to the study and assessment of cooperation between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Equatorial Guinea in the spheres of transport, health, agriculture and cadre training. During this meeting the two countries noted with satisfaction the stages passed through bilateral cooperation which was established 1 year ago.

This cooperation extends to several spheres, including the setting up of air communications between Casablanca and Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea, the building and financing of hospitals in Equatorial Guinea by Morocco and the sending of Moroccans advisers to help Equatorial Guinea to develop its agricultural and stockraising. As far as cadre training is concerned, Morocco has now accepted many Equatorial Guinean students who are pursuing their studies in the health, administration and banking spheres.

The Equatorial Guinean side is very pleased with the results achieved in the cooperation sphere and has expressed the hope that this cooperation could be extended to the information sphere, especially with respect to cooperation between MAP and the Equatorial Guinean information agency and, in particular, to the energy and oil sphere. Morocco stated that it is willing to develop bilateral cooperation in all spheres in accordance with the wishes of His Majesty King Hassan II who has issued instructions to this effect. For instance, it has been decided to send technical missions to Equatorial Guinea to assess on the spot that country's needs in the information and energy spheres. The two sides have also agreed to exchange missions with a view to developing cooperation between the two countries.

Morocco was represented at this working session by Interior Minister Driss Basri, Secretary of State for Cooperation Abdelhaq Tazi and Fes Province Governor Mehdi Alaoui M'rani, and Equatorial Guinea was represented by the commissioner for industry and mines, general secretaries to the presidency, Foreign Ministry and Planning Office, directors general of the Foreign Ministry European Department, industry and mines, press and television and the Equatorial Guinean ambassador to Rabat.

MINISTRY REJECTS 'ANTI-ISRAELI' UN RESOLUTIONS

TA160624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] Reacting to the anti-Israeli UN resolutions, the Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem said that Israel categorically rejected these resolutions. The spokesman added that the formulators of the resolutions were very well aware that they could in no way change the situation in the area and their only aim was to place a burden on the peace process in the Middle East. The spokesman went on to say that Israel would do its best to continue the peace efforts in spite of the obstacles the United Nations keeps putting in its way.

BEGIN BRIEFS COMMITTEE ON LINOWITZ VISIT

TA151430 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] A joint statement by the United States, Israel and Egypt on the autonomy talks will be issued at the end of Ambassador Sol Linowitz' Middle East tour. This was reported today by Prime Minister Begin to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

Our correspondent, Arye Golan, noted that Menahem Begin disclosed that Israel rejected a proposal that Ambassador Linowitz prepare a mutually acceptable report on the status of the talks because, in Israel's opinion, this would demand lengthy talks.

The prime minister told the members of the committee that he does not favor Moshe Dayan's proposal to institute the autonomy in the territories unilaterally. He reported that he would explain his position on that proposal to the Knesset next week.

As for the proposal to annex the Golan Heights, the prime minister said that just as his government did not evade a decision on the Jerusalem law, so when the time comes it will hold a debate on the Golan bill.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON EUROPEAN TOUR

TA121458 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Dec 80 p 25

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Ilan Kfir; date and place not identified]

[Text] Shamir: The European countries do not believe in the Camp David agreement and do not consider it a means that will promote peace and especially a solution to the Palestinian problem. Their objection to this agreement and their statements on this issue are detrimental and disruptive to the peace process. This policy certainly does not induce other Arab countries to join the peace process, but on the contrary, it supports extremist forces in their opposition to the agreement.

Question: Camp David no, but what do they want instead?

Answer: The only solution that will satisfy the EEC countries, and France in particular, is a complete Israeli withdrawal to the 1948 borders. In their opinion this withdrawal would make other Arab countries and the PLO recognize Israel.

Question: Do the French have a guarantee that a general Israeli pullback would indeed bring in its wake an Arab-PLO recognition of Israel and peace with it?

Answer: Neither France nor any other European countries have any practical guarantees on this topic. They hope that an Israeli withdrawal will prepare the ground for such recognition.

Question: And the Israeli stance?

Answer: In all the talks I had I made it clear in no uncertain words that this solution is not acceptable to Israel. We will not withdraw to the 1948 lines. The path that we are treading and will continue to tread is the implementation of the Camp David agreements and the establishment of autonomy for the Palestinian inhabitants of the territories.

Question: Is Europe willing to guarantee peace on the 1948 lines?

Answer: Yes. They acknowledge the Israeli argument that such withdrawal may cause security problems and think that such problems may be solved through security guarantees and a system of defense treaties.

Question: Did they hint at any willingness to allow Israel to attach itself to NATO?

Answer: There is no hint in the direction of Israel joining NATO. They are discussing guarantees on the terrain, along the model of the UNIFIL emergency force on the Golan Heights and in southern Lebanon. They know that we treat these manipulations with utter distrust. We will not place our security in the hands of the United Nations or of any other international force. I am not too certain that the Europeans have any genuine intentions as far as guarantees are concerned. First Israel will withdraw, then we will see. They advocate and believe in the principle of withdrawal and argue that this is a problem over which the parties must negotiate. This is also their answer to our argument. By what right do they come and suggest to impose a solution on us?

Question: Are the Europeans explicitly saying that they are designating the territory that will be evacuated by Israel for a PLO-Palestinian state?

Answer: They are cautious in their political formulations, being aware of the absolute Israeli opposition to a Palestinian state. They say that first of all Israel should withdraw from the territories and that what will happen on the territory that will be evacuated is not Israel's affair. According to the European suggestions, it will be the Palestinians who will decide on the fate of the territory, in accordance with the principle of self-determination.

Question: How do the Europeans account for their courting of the PLO?

Answer: What drives them toward the PLO and the Arab world in general are topical interests, particularly oil. They argue that their close ties with the PLO and with the Arab countries that oppose peace with Israel is restraining the Arabs from slipping into the bosom of the Soviet Union.

Question: What is the PLO's current position in Europe?

Answer: It is on the decline. The PLO's position in Europe has weakened, which is a direct reflection of its weakening in our region. The Iran-Iraq war and the tension between Syria and Jordan made it clear that the PLO is not a dominant factor. It is unable to ignite a war or make peace. The wave of anti-Semitism and terrorism in Europe deters many Europeans from any sympathy or solidarity with a terrorist organization.

Question: Is it possible that the Europeans will initiate political moves in our region, taking advantage of the administration change in the United States?

Answer: I do not think so. The current trend in Europe is to wait until the new president assumes his office. There is currently a marked tendency in Europe to have maximum cooperation with the United States. In the background of this is the tension on the Polish-Soviet border. The Europeans now understand that they will be unable to face the confrontation between the superpowers on their own. This is why they are striving for maximum cooperation with the United States.

Question: Can this situation help us?

Answer: Yes, there is no doubt about it. Europe knows that it cannot make moves on its own. All it can do is make statements and recommendations. Neither do the Arabs attach high hopes to the European initiative. All they want is a change in the U.S. policy.

Question: What is the French position on the Iraqi nuclear reactor?

Answer: We have obvious misgivings regarding the presence of a French nuclear reactor in the hands of a country like Iraq. We know about the Iraqi rulers' aspirations as they have declared more than once that they wish to go as far as producing nuclear weapons and for this reason they establish ties on nuclear projects with France, Italy, Brazil and other countries. I raised this issue in the meeting with French President Giscard d'Estaing and he attempted to convince me that there are no grounds for Israel's fears and that Iraq is unable to achieve the goal of nuclear weapons production. He explained that French policy is to prevent the proliferation of nuclear arms.

Question: Did the French president sound hostile in his approach to Israel?

Answer: I would not say it in these words. The meeting with him was friendly and interesting and he hoped that Israel would regard him in a more positive light. He wants to appear as a man who seeks peace and who hopes for Israel's well-being. Obviously, he made it clear that French interests have a priority as far as he is concerned.

Question: In Paris you met with the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali. Why doesn't he come to Israel to reciprocate your visit to Cairo?

Answer: He decided that because of the Jerusalem law he cannot come to Jerusalem. I explained to him that this position has no foundations in reality and it is impossible to conduct normal ties with the State of Israel without coming to Jerusalem. In everything that concerns the peace process with Egypt there is progress and movement. However, there are obstacles, too, some of which are objective. The peace treaty alone does not create the reality of peace. We have to invest more and more in this field.

SHAMIR SPEAKS ON NORMALIZATION, U.S. ROLE

TA121546 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1440 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 12 Dec--Trade relations between Israel and Egypt will gain further momentum as of 15 December upon the opening of the border checking point at Al-'Arish for the passage of goods. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated this in a speech at the Tel Aviv Trade and Industry Club today.

The minister added that by the end of October 1980 Israeli exports to Egypt totaled \$9 million.

Shamir emphasized that it was not enough to sign an agreement and that many efforts had to be exerted to materialize such an agreement. "A constant effort is required to solidify the state of peace between Israel and Egypt. To that effect, an Israeli delegation is currently in Egypt holding discussions with an Egyptian delegation on the way to solve problems and expand trade relations between the two countries. So far we have bought very little from Egypt but we have sold them some items, mainly poultry, eggs and chemicals. Upon the ratification by the Egyptian People's Assembly of the trade agreement between Israel and Egypt we will be able to conduct business not only with the private but also with the public sector."

Shamir added that already today there were promising starts in the agricultural sphere and that President as-Sadat was encouraging such contacts and cooperation with Israel which, according to experts, could contribute to increasing food production capabilities in Egypt. The El Al company will soon add a fourth flight on its line to Egypt and we suppose that an economic breakthrough will soon take place between Israel and Egypt.

Referring to the change of administrations in the United States, the foreign minister said that Israel was satisfied that the new administration wanted to continue the peace-making process. It would be noted that it would be impossible to continue the peace process without the participation of the United States. It is also worthwhile to point out that the inter-Arab conflicts should encourage the peace process since they highlight Israel's stability in the area.

Concluding his speech, Shamir criticized the United Nations by saying: "If we were to live according to the UN resolutions we would not live at all and that organization would have no subject to discuss. It is ridiculous that at these times--in the face of what is happening along the Polish border, the war between Iraq and Iran and the invasion of Afghanistan--the United Nations should have no other issue to discuss but that of the two deported mayors who venomously preached the annihilation of Israel. These two men would not be alive had they dared to say what they did in any Arab country. Interestingly enough, 50 percent of the UN debates have been devoted to the little state of Israel: There is no other subject in existence. Should we live by them?" The foreign minister was welcomed by club president attorney Yisra'el Levin.

RESULTS OF OWEN HORWOOD'S VISIT REPORTED

TA140907 Jerusalem POST in English 14 Dec 80 p 1

[By David Krivine and Shlomo Ma'oz]

[Text] Up to \$25 million in Israel bonds may now be sold in South Africa, under an agreement between Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz and his South African opposite number, Owen Horwood, who visited Israel last week.

At a joint press conference in Jerusalem on Friday, Hurvitz stated that he had also requested tax exemption for contributions to the United Jewish Appeal--and he believed that this would be granted.

Another concession made during the ministers' deliberations, which Horwood said "could not have been more friendly," was a slight increase in the ceiling for South African investments in Israel, up from \$50 million to \$60 million over the next three years. The range of permissible projects has been widened to include flats for rent. [paragraph continues]

South African investors will be allowed to conduct transactions in Israel according to Pretoria's official rate of exchange for the rand, which is 30 percent higher than its world rate of exchange, so that they will get 30 percent more here for their rand investments than they do in other countries.

The South Africans will also assist Israeli importers of their goods by extending credit lines to \$165 million.

The possible supply of South African coal for the new Hadera power station is one of the first subjects on the agenda of a new standing committee of senior officials. It will meet once a year, and more frequently if necessary, the two ministers said. Although the details of an agreement for a special concession to Israel have not been worked out, the contract has been signed, and first shipments should reach Israel in 1986.

Another subject which has not been finalized is Israel's request to extend its fishing rights in South Africa. Horwood was a professor of economics and principal of Natal University before entering politics in 1970. Asked whether the issue of apartheid had been raised in the inter-ministerial talks, he replied that the two sides saw no purpose in querying each other's domestic policies.

Horwood said the Reagan administration will adopt a "more realistic attitude" towards South Africa, out of recognition of its strategic importance to the West. South Africa's strategic location and rich resources would benefit the West as a whole, he said.

Hurvitz told reporters he refuses to play down Israel's relations with South Africa. Israel is now benefiting from seeds sown several years ago towards improving these relations and there is no point in attempting to hush them up, he said.

Israeli exports to South Africa total only half its imports from that country, but South Africa offers a boom market for Israeli trade. According to figures released by the embassy spokesman, South Africa's exports in January-September of this year, including gold, totalled \$19 billion, as against \$14 billion in imports.

EGYPTIAN SOURCES PREDICT TRIPARTITE SUMMIT

TA141642 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Egyptian sources predict that a tripartite summit of Reagan, As-Sadat and Begin can be expected in about 3 months. Before that Reagan will meet separately with the leaders of Egypt and Israel.

Israeli officials who recently spoke with their Egyptian counterparts have said that Egypt is firm in its opposition to King Husayn's incorporation into the negotiations. The Egyptians are interested in a continuation of the autonomy talks in their current format.

DELEGATION OF FORMER OFFICERS SEES AS-SADAT

TA161024 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 16 Dec 80 pp 1, 6

[By Ya'ir 'Amiqam]

[Summary] A delegation of former IDF officers was received yesterday by President as-Sadat in his Cairo office. The delegation included a former chief of staff, intelligence heads, Mosad heads and former senior generals and it was the first time that such a delegation had visited Egypt. Although the visit was described as a private one, it was coordinated with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense and the Israeli Embassy in Cairo. It was accompanied by both Israeli and Egyptian security personnel.

The meeting with As-Sadat was at the latter's invitation and lasted for about 2 hours. When the delegation members returned to Israel yesterday, they refused to disclose details of their conversation with As-Sadat, saying that they would first give a briefing to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, but they did say that the atmosphere had been most friendly and warm.

AS-SADAT SENDS FRIENDLY MESSAGE TO SHIM'ON PERES

TA151318 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Dec 80 p 2

[By political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Before the opening of the Labor Party convention Egypt's President Anwar as-Sadat has sent a personal message to the Labor Party chairman, MK Shim'on Peres. In his message, As-Sadat addressed Peres: "My dear friend, Shim'on Peres."

The Egyptian president thanked the Labor Party chairman for the "constructive talks As-Sadat conducted with Peres and with his party colleagues during their visit to Cairo" which, in As-Sadat's opinion, will make a positive contribution to the consolidation of peace.

As-Sadat, further wrote that he is certain that the peace process will continue, as long as there is cooperation, until it yields the hoped for results and until peace prevails in the Middle East.

As an expression of personal friendship for Peres and the Labor Party leaders, As-Sadat dispatched a high-level Egyptian delegation to attend the Labor Party convention. Among the Egyptian delegation members are former Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and the minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali. The editor of OCTOBER weekly, Anis Mansur, may also join the delegation.

NEW RULES FOR COVERAGE OF WEST BANK EVENTS

TA151529 Jerusalem POST in English 15 Dec 80 p 2

[Text] The Government Press Office has issued new directives clarifying the conditions under which newsmen may operate in the West Bank and Gaza. The directives were published yesterday after a meeting between representatives of the Foreign Press Association and the director of the Government Press Office, Ze'ev Hefetz.

In principle, any journalist registered permanently or temporarily with the GPO will be allowed freedom to enter and cover events in the area.

When military actions require that an area be closed, the directives stipulate, such closure also prohibits the movement of journalists, and access to the area will, as a rule, be possible only when accompanied by an IDF representative.

The directives, which have also been issued in the form of an order to the army, specifically state that force may not be used against journalists, nor may film or other journalistic material be destroyed or damaged.

The directives were issued after a rash of incidents between troops in the West Bank and journalists covering the recent disturbances there. The directives specifically instruct TV crews "not to use their equipment overtly in places where their early presence is liable to inflame impulses. But they will be permitted to film during the event."

A representative for the FPA said last night that the directives "appeared satisfactory," but added that it remained to be seen how they would affect work in the field.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD ORGANIZING AT UNIVERSITY

TA151801 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] A group of Muslim Brotherhood activists is now organizing at An-Najah University in Nablus. Our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, noted that the first Muslim Brotherhood group had already organized at Bi'r Zayt College, contesting the elections for the teachers' trade union but losing to a leftist group.

HA'ARETZ VIEWS DAYAN, BEGIN AUTONOMY STANDS

TA121432 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Dec 80 p 14

['Uzi Benziman Commentary: "The Message According to Dayan and Begin"]

[Excerpt] In 10 days Dayan will challenge the government's attitude toward the autonomy idea from the Knesset rostrum. Dayan will raise for discussion his proposal to unilaterally apply self-administration in the occupied territories. Thus he will present a view that runs counter to that held by the government today and will enable the public to get a concrete idea about the form of self-administration Dayan would have introduced if he were authorized to do so. Dayan's parliamentary initiative provides, however, an opportunity to compare his interpretation of the Camp David accords against that of Prime Minister Begin.

It should be hoped that the Knesset debate will somewhat shake the Israeli public out of the indifference it shows toward the autonomy negotiations. Dayan's remarks and the prime minister's reply will not only illustrate what each of these initiators of the autonomy idea understood about it when it was formed in December 1977 and finally worked out in the Camp David summit in September 1978; the very inclusion of this problem on the Knesset's agenda will grant it the deserving dimension of urgency, since acceptance of today's barren nature of the autonomy negotiations is not useful either for Israel's relations with Egypt, or for Israel's chances for a dialogue with Washington, or for Israel's political status in the world. It is also not useful for harnessing other Arab elements to the peace process and especially not for Israel's control of the occupied territories.

The differences between Begin's and Dayan's approaches toward the autonomy can be illustrated by the following issues:

A. The civilian spheres of the military authorities activity:

According to Begin, a considerable number of the military authorities' powers should be handed over to the Judea, Samaria and Gaza residents on a selective basis. Israel's supreme control over the self-administration's activity in these spheres should be guaranteed.

According to Dayan, all powers should be handed over to the inhabitants and Israel should refuse to continue to deal with them unless requested to do so by the inhabitants.

B. Responsibility for security in the autonomy districts:

According to Begin, IDF should have a free hand in this activity within the autonomy boundaries. Israeli security elements should be able to intervene in every case of disturbances in Judea, Samaria and Gaza which the local police fail to control.

According to Dayan, IDF's main task is to guard the border and supervise the traffic on the Jordan River bridges. The IDF will interfere with the autonomy inhabitants' domestic affairs only if they declare the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. If disturbances occur anywhere it is unnecessary for the IDF to intervene even if Jews will not be able to visit that area as a result.

C. The settlements:

According to Begin, Jewish settlements in the autonomy regions are subject to Israeli administration and jurisdiction.

Dayan identifies with the prime minister on this issue.

D. The voting right of the east Jerusalem residents:

Begin totally rejects this demand.

As far as Dayan is concerned, as long as there is no agreement on the establishment of autonomy, his view is identical to Begin. However, if negotiations are conducted and the self-administration is introduced as a result of an agreement and not unilaterally, Dayan reveals readiness for some flexibility regarding Jerusalem Arabs' representation on the autonomy council (for example, representatives can be appointed on their behalf).

E. The source of authority within the autonomy boundaries:

According to Begin, Israel must insure having a certain legal link with the autonomy areas. Arguments between the Jewish settlers and Arab residents will be heard in Israeli courts.

As far as Dayan is concerned, if the self-administration is unilaterally introduced then his view is identical with Begin's. Dayan may reveal flexibility toward the Arab stance on this issue in the framework of negotiations and agreement on the establishment of autonomy.

F. Legislative rights:

Begin totally rejects this demand. He suggests granting the autonomy council powers to issue regulations pertaining to local affairs only.

Dayan, on the other hand, is prepared to grant certain legislative powers provided they are acceptable to Israel.

G. Use of water and land resources:

Begin has lately revealed greater readiness than in the past to grant some powers to the autonomy council in this field.

For Dayan, if the self-administration is unilaterally practiced then he accepts Begin's view. He will be prepared to reveal greater generosity toward the Arab demands if negotiations are conducted and an agreement is reached.

H. The number of members of the autonomy council:

According to Begin the number should be small, around 15 people, thus guaranteeing the council's administrative nature.

Dayan is prepared to leave to the Judeaea, Samaria and Gaza residents the decision about the form of running their affairs the moment the military authorities are removed and responsibility for handling affairs is transferred to the inhabitants in these regions.

ETHIOPIAMENGISTU CONGRATULATES OBOTE ON ELECTION VICTORY

LD152054 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 15 Dec 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam has congratulated Dr Milton Obote on his election as president of Uganda. In a message to Dr Obote, Comrade Chairman Mengistu expressed the confidence that under his leadership the brotherly people of Uganda will open a new and much more rewarding chapter of national reconstruction. He also assured Dr Obote of Ethiopia's good-neighbourly and brotherly cooperation in his efforts.

SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

LD132032 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Dec 80 EA

[Text] An agreement providing for joint technical and scientific research was signed today on behalf of socialist Ethiopia by Comrade Haile Leul Tèbikè, science and technology commissioner, and by Comrade Vyacheslav Sychev, deputy chairman [as heard] of the Soviet Committee for Science and Technology, on behalf of the USSR.

The agreement, which was signed at the assembly hall of the Commission of Science and Technology, will enable the two countries to carry out joint research in power generation, water resources, meteorological studies and agriculture. Under the agreement, Ethiopian and Soviet scientists and technologists will carry out joint research in these fields and exchange data.

In speeches following the signing ceremony, Comrades Haile Leul Tèbikè and Vyacheslav Sychev noted that the friendship and mutual assistance between the two friendly countries was expanding daily. They said the cooperation agreement signed today was the outcome of these good relations.

KENYAPRESIDENT APPEALS FOR UNITY; ARRIVES IN SUDAN

LD151630 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 15 Dec 80 EA

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi arrived in the Sudan this morning at the head of a 21-man delegation aboard a Boeing-720 Kenya Airways carrier. Before departure from Nairobi this morning, the president cautioned leaders in the country against disrupting the prevailing peace by discrediting other leaders. He said that it was the duty of the leaders to preach the nyayo [footsteps] philosophy of peace, love and unity. President Moi said that the peace he has been preaching is beginning to dawn on some neighboring countries.

The president said that there was enough food in the country and wananchi [the people] should not be misled that there was no food. He appealed to leaders to give the vice president and minister for finance, Mr Mwai Kibaki, the necessary assistance in maintaining peace and unity in the country during his absence. The president called on the parliamentarians to go back to their respective constituencies and coordinate development activities.

During his state visit to the Sudan, President Moi will hold talks with the Sudanese leader, Ja'far Numayri, on mutual cooperation between the two countries, and tour various development projects in the Sudan. Among those at the Komo Kenyatta International Airport to see him off this morning were: the vice president and minister for finance, Mr Mwai Kibaki; Cabinet ministers; the Nairobi deputy mayor Councillor Odongo; the chief of the general staff, General Mulinge; diplomats; and parliamentarians.

PRESIDENT DECREES 1-YEAR NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE

LD121530 Nairobi Domestic Service in Swahili 0920 GMT 12 Dec 80 EA

[Speech by President Daniel Arap Moi at 17th Independence Anniversary rally in Jamhuri Park, Nairobi--live]

[Excerpts] Today, I wish to discuss an important matter concerning the preparation of our youth, male and female, to fulfill its duty to lead the Kenyan nation when the time comes. Recently many statements and pronouncements were made and, perhaps, there are bound to be many others concerning the rapid increase in births in our country. But at present I would like to emphasize that every year the number of our young men continues to increase. Whenever a national census is carried out, statistics clearly show the age of the people. For example, at the moment the number of young men and women aged no more than 18 stands at 60 percent of the entire Kenyan population. This demonstrates that the majority of these young men and women had not yet been born when we assumed responsible government in 1963.

This preponderance of youth brings problems in drawing up national plans. Hence the most important or final decision is that young men and women must be well prepared to take their place in building the nation. Many efforts are being made to fulfill this goal. But it is clear that, as a nation, we are still not exerting adequate efforts. Youths must be fully involved in everyday efforts concerning all economic aspects of our country.

In the past, and in accordance with our culture which I mentioned earlier, youths were given social responsibilities within their communities. Today, we will not agree to girls remaining behind waiting for their parents or elder brothers and sisters to do all the work. Everyone of us must assume a certain duty in the building of our nation.

I have therefore decided that as of 1982 all young men and women who complete grade six should first serve for 1 year in the National Service Department before going on to their university studies, other colleges of higher studies or employment. This will be compulsory but in reality it will not be punishment. Instead, plans will be made to encourage and educate youths to realize the reality of life. In this endeavor, the government will undertake the duty of providing them with money for expenditure throughout the period of this service. Exact details of this plan and preparations to be made will be announced soon.

But I would like to emphasize that the young men and women concerned must exert every effort during their year in the National Service Department, in all types of jobs, wherever they may be. For they will be admitted to university or other centers of higher studies only if they have good work results from that service. Supervisors should send constant reports, and these reports will affect the studies to be undertaken on an equal basis with the results of examinations of ordinary studies.

Dear countrymen, I would like to conclude this speech by mentioning another matter that is important to us. Recently, we witnessed an attempt by certain people to cause problems in one of our provinces--the northeastern province. I want everybody who is in Kenya or outside to understand that we did not fight for the right to own our land in order to be able to give other people part of this land. [applause] We will use every technique to defend the borders of our nation. In saying this I would like to add that we in Kenya want to live in peace with our neighbors on a good-neighbor basis. We expect other countries to respect the same spirit of friendship and not help malcontents to cause disturbances, hoping that part of Kenya can be captured.

Thus, dear countrymen, I conclude by appealing to each of you to be ever vigilant and inform government officials of anybody with criminal habits, such as robbery, illicit trade, or the spreading of rumors or propaganda aimed at dividing our people. We must always forge ahead by relying on our initial faith that unity is strength and that if we have unity we will overcome our problems. Thank you. [applause]

UGANDAOBOTE DELIVERS INAUGURATION SPEECH 15 DEC

LD151600 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0800 GMT 15 Dec 80 EA

[Speech by President-elect Apollo Milton Obote, at his inauguration on 15 Dec--live]

[Text] Mr Chairman, chief justice, your excellencies, fellow citizens: This is a very historic occasion for me and for our country. And it is most befitting that this ceremony should have been held in the grounds of Parliament building.

On the 20th of January 1971 a ceremony was held at Kololo grounds, which ceremony, as you all know, discredited that independent ground [as heard], destroyed our democracy, abolished Parliament and carried, for 8 and 1/2 years, destruction of everything which we valued and which we had all made together.

Today, fellow citizens, we raise the banner of democracy once more and we proclaim the rule of law [words indistinct]. Today, we proclaim the resurrection of the institutions of our parliamentary government. To me, fellow citizens, on this solemn occasion marking the rebirth of our independence, of our democracy and of our national unity and dignity and of the rights of every Ugandan, let me sincerely tell you that I am awed by the oath of office I have just taken.

In my life I have faced challenges and intimidating tasks, but never have I been forced with some formidable challenges such as we now face. Never have I been faced with such problems that I now see ahead of my government and, I believe, ahead of all the people of Uganda. I am however confident that Ugandans have the ability and the natural resources to surmount those challenges and tasks.

My first appeal to you, fellow citizens, is to ask for the will and ask for your united effort so that we may together rebuild this country. As promised in the UPC [Ugandan Peoples Congress] manifesto, I believe this country can rise and shall rise again. I call upon every Ugandan to work more than ever before in the spirit of our national motto, for God and my country.

Let us be inspired by the examples of our neighbors and friends--Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia.

Let us have the Kenyan harambee spirit of pulling together. Let us have the Tanzanian resolution of self-reliance, as a first step in all our thinking and actions. And let us have the Zambian humanism, that spirit of compassion to one another. [applause]

As for the government, we shall work in the spirit of our national motto. We shall work in the spirit of pulling together. We shall work for human compassion, for human rights and for human dignity. We shall work for reconciliation. We shall insist on no revenge. We shall work as God-created human beings, reliant on our own efforts.

While we shall work for our self-reliance, we shall not be ashamed to call upon our friends to lend a helping hand in our own effort to rebuild our shattered economy, rebuild our security and to rebuild our social services. [applause]

I therefore urge and appeal to all fellow-Ugandans to accept that this country can be rebuilt, if each one of us working for himself and for the community at large. [sentence as heard]

In the UPC manifesto, the first of our greatest challenges is given as the moral regeneration and rehabilitation. I believe that the people of Uganda voted in support of the UPC's determination to work closely with the people, and particularly with the religious leaders and institutions, for the attainment of that goal of moral regeneration. I take this opportunity to affirm that the government will pursue that policy. [applause]

Fellow-citizens, it is of the greatest importance that we establish principles, that we set objectives, that we formulate strategies and that we design tactics in order to tackle the problems ahead of us. I pledge that the government will be a government of law and not a government of men. [applause] We shall abide by the existing law and the laws to be enacted by Parliament hereafter.

I do hereby reaffirm the position in practice which used to obtain before the 1971 tragedy-- that the UPC and government shall respect and shall uphold the independence of the judiciary. [applause]

Fellow citizens, I am speaking to you on this occasion, as you all know, as the result of the recent general elections in which my party emerged victorious. [applause] In this context, let me give to the whole country the position of my party and myself regarding the results of the elections.

My party accepts the verdict of the people. [applause] Where we may have complaints or in any particular constituency, we shall take such complaints to the courts of law for adjudication and we shall accept the ruling of the courts. [applause] I want appeal to my brothers in the other parties to do the same. Unless we accept the operations of law and the institutions of government, we shall not be able to rebuild our country on democratic lines.

On behalf, therefore, of all my colleagues and, I believe, in the name of all the people of Uganda, now I take this opportunity to send a message to the leadership and to the entire membership of the DP [Democratic Party], that their role as the opposition party is as challenging as the role of the UPC in government. Our destiny is the same. We either rise or sink together. But in UFC we are resolved that we rise together. [applause]

I cannot imagine a situation where members of the DP would want Uganda to continue to sink.

Fellow citizens, the DP has won seats in Parliament. I will ask all members of Parliament to fulfill their due role of keeping the government on the alert and to speak loud and clear on all matters pertaining to the national interest. [applause]

It is one thing to contest the results of the elections in a particular constituency-- or another constituency--and try and seek redress in the courts, as provided by law. But it is an entirely different thing to reject the results of the entire election, after you have gone through each and every stage.

I do not want to say much on this point. Again, we promise the people of Uganda that we do not consider the other parties as the losers in this election. They, and indeed the people of Uganda as a whole, have not lost. They have established a new basis of working. It would not have been an election if it was only one party. But it was an election in which all four parties campaigned and campaigned freely. And the people of Uganda turned out in their thousands to make their choice.

Fellow citizens, may I, in behalf of the whole country, take this opportunity to thank the chairman of the military commission [applause], to thank all the members of the commission and to thank the government of the military commission, who have made it possible for the election to give us also this peaceful transfer of power to an elected government. [applause]

I would like to place on record my deepest appreciation of a good job well done, by you, Mr Chairman and your commission and the government, over the last 7 months, in a most trying and difficult situation. [applause] To have held this country together at this point is an achievement by itself. All Ugandans, I am sure, will be ever grateful to Chairman Paulo Muwanga for his sterling leadership. [applause]

The arduous task of organizing the logistics and administration of the elections was, as we all know, the responsibility of the electoral commission. Theirs was a constitutional duty, but it has also been a thankless task. They had to do the exercise in the shortest possible time and under difficult conditions where, for instance, there was no transport, no fuel, very poor roads. And yet they succeeded. On behalf of the country, I thank the chairman and the members of the electoral commission. [applause]

I also want to thank all the returning officers and presiding officers and others who made the electoral process a success. [applause]

Fellow citizens, the voters, the voters by their very votes registered confidence in themselves and in our country. And the voters have given Africa a brilliant image.

Under Idi Amin, Uganda was almost a forgotten country but, during the elections exercise, Uganda became the center of the world. Pressmen came from all corners of the world. Foreign radios began their news bulletins either with the Ugandan situation or the Uganda situation being number two.

While we thank newsmen, we hope that they have learned something from us. We only regret that it may not be possible for their respective countries in future to invite us to go and observe their elections. [applause]

Fellow citizens, this is a valid point, because let no one take it to mind that only in Uganda can elections be held in situations which will not be free and fair. It will be wrong for any person to believe that only in Uganda will elections be rigged.

I have said it--and I reaffirm it today--the UPC shall have nothing to do with a rigged elections and that is why I have this morning affirmed and promised that where the court decides on the elections petitions we shall accept the decisions of the courts.

Fellow citizens, we have made history in the past 10 years, in several years. First, we had the most brutal, fascist and murderous regime. It is history. Our friends emerged during that difficult period, and I want to say from now onwards, any country that was either friendly to Amin or unfriendly to us--the people of Uganda--that era is gone. We open a new era. Our policy of reconciliation shall extend to all parts of the world. The past is gone.

We start a new future. We want to thank, in such a manner that all the people of Uganda will always remember, those countries which showed plight [as heard] of the people of Uganda and stood solidly behind the people.

Fellow countrymen, we have friends. We have good neighbors. We shall do everything possible to strengthen the platform already erected. On these matters, I speak with great emotion on this matter.

I was in Tanzania for many years. I was in Tanzania during the war. I saw the magnitude of their sacrifice, which helped the people of Uganda. There is some misunderstanding in some political quarters abroad about the role of Tanzania in Uganda. Tanzania was attacked by Amin. Tanzania had to drive off the invader. I was there. The Tanzanian leaders did not want to come into Uganda. They experienced moral problems but Amin forced them to come.

When Amin made that famous statement [pauses] that on [pauses] hostilities coming to other end, such Ugandans as lived in Masaka District and Mbarara District then Ankole District would suffer the consequences of the alleged association with Tanzania. [as heard] That was one of the reasons that forced the leaders of Tanzania to come into Uganda and thereby stop Amin from murdering nearly 2 million Ugandans.

Ever since Tanzanians have been here, they have not appointed one chief, they have not appointed one district commissioner, they have not appointed one policeman, they have not appointed one ruler. They have left Ugandans to run their own affairs.

In this election, one of the finest reports I have so far received is this: Not a single party, not a single candidate, not an agent of any party has reported that where you have Tanzanian army and troops, that those troops or police attempted in any way to be involved in elections. [applause] There is not a single accusation against Tanzanian army or police in the whole process of these elections. I want to thank, and thank them very much. [applause]

But, fellow citizens, let me restate what I have been saying during the campaign: One day, our friends who helped us to overthrow Idi Amin, will go back, but I have kept on telling the people and I will be telling the people of Uganda: What do we tell to Tanzania? I know the price they want. I know the price, and I have told the electorate. Let me say it again today: They want us to pay the price of unity--unity in Uganda. [applause] Is that price too High for us? Let us strive to pay them that price, for our good and for the good of our region. [applause]

Fellow citizens, I want to report to you that yesterday I received a very warm message from my brother, the president of the Republic of Kenya, Daniel Arap Moi. [applause] He wishes all of us success in all that we are trying to do to stabilize the country. Fellow citizens: No one without a friend can wish you good health.

Let me conclude: We have problems, we have friends, we have our ability to do a number of things. We have natural resources. Things may be difficult but together it should be possible, to all of us to rebuild Uganda.

This ceremony was arranged at short notice. I am grateful to see many countries represented here by their ambassadors and leaders of missions. I thank you all--those countries represented here--for the assistance they have been giving Uganda. I shall look forward to work with them and to strengthen relations between Uganda and their respective countries.

I am particularly very glad to report to you, the nation, that we have at this ceremony a strong delegation from the United Republic of Tanzania, led by Ndugu Rashidi Kawawa. [applause]

I want to give you the pledge that the UPC government shall do everything to forge unity in Uganda and forge unity in East Africa. [applause] I declare that with (?sincerity) now having returned in Uganda with an elected government and with elected governments in Nairobi and in Dar es Salaam, my government shall work for peace, for cooperation and for mutual understanding in our region. [applause]

I thank the Sudan and--as it has now been disclosed to you--for helping us during our darkest hours in 1971 and 1972, when they gave us training camp, where we trained Ugandan sons, who later participated in the liberation of our country. The UPC will have the warmest relationships with the Sudan. [applause]

And that section of Uganda bordering with Zaire, I am glad to report that even before a single vote had been cast in our recent elections exercise, President Mobutu sent me a message of goodwill and the assurances that it was the policy of his government to restore relations with Uganda. [applause] That policy shall be effectively reciprocated by the UPC government.

Rwanda and Burundi have always had close associations with the people of Uganda. Let word go out from here today that close associations shall be maintained and strengthened by the UPC and the people of Rwanda and Burundi.

Fellow citizens, we may be very far from Zambia, but, indeed, Zambia is our neighbor and a compassionate and a close neighbor. During the period of the regime of murder, Zambia was one of the very few countries which stood solidly behind the people of Uganda, who were struggling to rid the country of that brutal regime. We send the people of Zambia from this place today our warm greetings and assurances of solidarity in the days ahead.

Let us not forget our dear friends and other neighbors. It would be [word indistinct] for me not to extend the same greetings to Mozambique, to Ethiopia, to Angola and to Algeria. Our liberation was assisted in one form or another by each and every one of those.

I take this opportunity to thank them all and to thank their leaders and to say to them they have given us a fundamental meaning in Africa's brotherhood.

But, fellow citizens, we have started a new era. It is going to be difficult. I shall do my level best. I ask for your assistance. I say all this for God and my countrymen.

FORMER PRESIDENT BINAISA RELEASED 15 DEC

LD151858 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Dec 80 EA

[Text] The President of Uganda, Dr Apollo Milton Obote, with his practical maintenance of the policy of reconciliation, has released the former president of Uganda, Mr Godfrey (Lukongo) Binaisa, QC, who has been under house arrest for the last 7 months.

In a ceremony held at State House Entebbe this evening, he (?termed his) release of Mr Binaisa as endorsing the new era of freedom and justice.

Dr Obote promised to make arrangements to investigate into the (?cases) of other Ugandans under custody so that they can be set free. The Uganda of today, he said, needs the brains of every Ugandan. That is why we offered policies of no revenge and reconciliation. The president sounded a call of come back home to all other Ugandans, who are living outside Uganda, to come and join hands with the government to rebuild Uganda.

Dr Obote informed Mr Binaisa that he was free to make arrangements with the inspector of police for his personal security. The former president, Mr Binaisa, pledged his wholehearted support to the new government, and assured him of his willingness to (?make his) contribution to [words indistinct] reconstruction of Uganda.

Mr Binaisa said he and his wife were emotionally touched by this gesture extended to them. He [words indistinct] free as birds in the air, he confidently stressed.

The president, Dr Obote, assured the people that this was the first step toward reconciliation for everybody, the policy he has preached throughout his campaign.

The ceremony was attended by members of Parliament, (?our) Tanzanian allies and the chairman of the military commission, Mr Paulo Muwanga.

CHIEF OF STAFF APPEALS FOR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

LD151536 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0733 GMT 15 Dec 80 EA

[Speech by Brig David Oyite-Ojok, chief of staff of the Ugandan National Liberation Army, at the inauguration of President Apollo Milton Obote on 15 December--live]

[Excerpt] For those of you who have just contested elections: some of you lost. We beg, we the soldiers of the UNLA, that you take your loss or your defeat as a gentleman and as a son of Uganda. [applause] To those who have won, we want you to lead us. Don't lead us into darkness. [applause] Uganda is big enough for all of us. Even if our population is doubled today, there is still enough room. There is enough jobs [as heard], enough work, enough room for everybody. I thank you all. For God and my country. [applause]

OBOTE ANNOUNCES NINE-MEMBER CABINET 16 DEC

LD160741 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 16 Dec 80 EA

[Text] The president of Uganda, Dr Apollo Milto Obote, has announced a nine-man Cabinet, with the chairman of the military commission as vice president and minister of defense.

In a statement issued last evening from the State House, Entebbe, Dr Obote appointed Chris Rwakasisi as minister of state, president's office.

Minister of Industry	Dr Abonia Tiberondwa
Minister of Rehabilitation	Mr Masete Kunia
Minister of Information	Dr David Anyoti
Minister of Supplies	Dr Moses Apiliga
Minister of Health	Dr Ezra Nkwasiwe
Minister of State, Vice President's Office	Mr Peter Otai
Minister of Cooperatives and Marketing	Mr Yona Kanyamuzi

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLICDACKO SAYS ELECTIONS TO BE HELD BEFORE 31 MAR

AB121515 Paris AFP in French 1117 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Bangui, 12 Dec (AFP)--The constitutional referendum and the presidential and legislative elections in CAR will take place before 31 March 1981, President David Dacko stated **Thursday night**. In a statement to AFP, the CAR head of state specified that he would be a candidate for the presidency. It is my duty, he said, for this is the wish expressed by the people of the CAR.

After indicating that all political parties could present candidates for the Legislative Assembly, President Dacko said he hoped these parties could not use regional and tribal bases for their support or propaganda. According to the head of state, in the next few months, it will be the duty of the parties to decide whether to remain separated or to merge.

The CAR president stated that the draft constitution does not provide for the post of a vice president because of the dangers inherent in having power divided between two people. This draft constitution, which has been studied by the government, has been submitted to the National Seminar of Reflection which has currently brought together representatives of political parties, trade unions, youth and rural dwellers in Bangui.

PRIME MINISTER INTERVIEWED BY AFP ON STRIKES

AB141300 Paris AFP in French 1624 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Bangui, 12 Dec (AFP)--The sporadic strikes, especially the recent one by the teachers, dealt blows to our democracy as well as to our efforts to repair the damage done to the Central African economy because they were not preceded by negotiations, CAR Prime Minister Jean-Baptiste Lebouder explained on Friday. Speaking in an interview with AFP, the Central African prime minister asserted that these strikes were as unpopular to the parents as to the students. He explained that some students were very angry with their teachers and had criticized them.

Lebouder believes the Central African Government cannot accept the fact that civil service personnel are always demanding more rights when they are already privileged class. The nation, he said, is not at the mercy of a privileged caste which is attempting to reclaim power or to engage in activities of destabilization. While we are entering into dialogue with all the country's cadres, the teachers are blocking it with their strike; it is time for the country's employees to use their power for something other than defending their own wages, the prime minister continued.

The prime minister explained that the purpose of the National Seminar of Reflection, which is currently being held in Bangui, is to open the eyes of all the active people in the country--civil servants, workers, farmers, young people and women as well as all the political parties without preference--concerning our own realities. The approximately 200 participants are considering both the draft constitution and the budget. This shows the willingness of head of state David Dacko to be open and democratic about our actions and our options, Mr Lebouder added.

The people attending the seminar will especially realize that in order to balance our budget, we will need help from the outside but to achieve total independence, we need economic and financial independence, he continued. According to the prime minister, a call for sacrifice will be given at all levels, but it is certain that the rich will be taxed more than the less rich, who will be affected only slightly or not at all.

Mr Lebouder stressed that the cadres, who will decide on these issues, will do so without any pressure from the government, since the ministers are only observers. Subsequently, the government will study their resolutions. It will then be able to reconsider its options and take coherent and indispensable measures to advance the future of the nation.

CHAD

REPORTAGE ON MILITARY, POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Attack on French Statement

AB141225 Paris AFP in English 1144 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Yaounde, Cameroon, Dec. 15 (AFP)--Chad Government forces under President Goukouni Oueddei now hold two thirds of the embattled capital of Ndjamea after seizing large areas from the army of rebel Defense Minister Hissein Habre, a Chad Government spokesman said here today. The fall of Ndjamea is close, the spokesman added.

The spokesman also deplored a French Government statement yesterday warning against a continuation of foreign armed intervention in Chad--a clear reference to Libyan help for Mr. Goukouni's side. The Chad Government cannot understand the French declaration, which comes at a time when the end of the war is close, in Ndjamea and the rest of Chad, the spokesman said. Asserting that French soldiers are stationed in two neighboring countries, the spokesman said he was drawing the attention of African opinion to the danger that a French intervention would represent now that the war is almost over.

Goukouni Capture of Ndjamea

AB151843 Paris AFP in French 1651 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Kousseri (Northern Cameroon), 15 Dec (AFP)--The evacuation of the soldiers of Mr Hissein Habre's Northern Armed Forces (FAN), on Sunday night, from the areas in Ndjamea which they had held, has enabled the coalition government of Mr Goukouni Oueddei to become masters of the Chadian capital after 8 months of fighting.

In the night of Sunday to Monday, Mr Habre left the capital and was in the Cameroonian town of Maroua, 250 km south of Ndjamea, Monday afternoon, it was learned from reliable sources. He is expected to fly to an unspecified African capital. Under the terms of the last reconciliation meeting in Lome, Togo, Mr Habre had up to Monday at midnight to sign the cease-fire agreement which has already been signed by Mr Goukouni Oueddei. The fall of Ndjamea comes a week after the launching of the offensive by the coalition government forces heavily assisted by Libyan troops equipped with armored vehicles and heavy artillery.

By evacuating the town of which it controlled the greater part only 48 hours ago, the FAN certainly felt that they could not hold out much longer against the heavy firepower arrayed against them for the past 8 days. After successfully repelling last Monday night's attack by about 20 Libyan armored vehicles supported mainly by jet planes, the FAN soldiers were rapidly smothered by an intense artillery pounding from Libyan and coalition government forces. The latter's actions have been coordinated since 18 November by Colonel Kamougue, vice president of the Transitional National Union Government, GUNT. The bombardment continued in intensity on Wednesday and Thursday resulting in many dead and wounded, especially among the civilian population.

After a relatively calm Thursday, shooting resumed again, beginning to cause panic on Friday. This made many people to flee to Kousseri, in Cameroon, on the other side of the Chari River. The number of people who tried to seek refuge in this small Cameroonian town to escape the hell of Ndjamea is estimated at 10,000. The sudden exodus of the population and the inability of Mr Habre's Northern Armed Forces to stop the heavy rain of fire to which Ndjamea had been subjected for 8 days, certainly led to the decision by Mr Habre's soldiers to leave the town.

Already, on Saturday, during a meeting of the Command Council of the Northern Armed Forces, presided over by Mr Hissein Habre, several members of the council demanded that the FAN should sign the cease-fire agreement which had been accepted by President Goukouni Oueddei on 29 November in Lome.

On Sunday night, most of the FAN soldiers which remained in Ndjamenas began to leave for Abeche, their principal rear base in the eastern part of the country near the Sudanese border, while Mr Habre was heading toward northern Cameroon. Before leaving, the FAN blew up their headquarters in Bangali where Mr Habre resided, as well as the national radio and several depots of foodstuffs and ammunition. Large fires were observed and some explosions were heard from Kousseri on Sunday night. The last resisting members of the FAN were crossing the river in canoes with their arms on Monday afternoon. As soon as they arrived on the Cameroonian soil, they were disarmed by the local military authorities.

They were going to swell the number of Chadian refugees in Kousseri. Fatigue and dejection could be read in their faces. Many of them had neither drunk nor eaten anything for several days.

Habre Movements

AB152049 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Former Chadian defense minister, Hissein Habre, leader of the Northern Armed Forces fighting the army of President Goukouni Oueddei, has agreed to sign a cease-fire agreement. Informed French sources in Paris said Mr Habre was apparently on his way to the Togolese capital, Lome, to sign the agreement drawn up there last November between President Goukouni and the governments of the Togo, Congo, Guinea and Benin. They said diplomatic (?pressure) by African leaders rather than reported military setback prompted Mr Habre to agree to sign the document he rejected just over 2 weeks ago. The Lome agreement was worked out on the initiative of Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema under the auspices of the OAU. It provided for a cease-fire in Chad and withdrawal of all forces involved in the battle from the capital, Ndjamenas, to a distance of 100 km. The same sources said Mr Habre crossed the (Logone) River, Chad's frontier with Cameroon today and was apparently heading for the Togolese capital.

Meanwhile, Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, apparently referring to France, has condemned what he called imperialist attempts to interfere in Chad, the Libyan news agency said that Colonel al-Qadhafi called the Algerian president Chadli Bendjedid by telephone last night and said the two leaders reaffirmed their support for the legal Chad Government, headed by Goukouni Oueddei.

Habre in Yaounde

AB160858 Paris AFP in French 0834 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Yaounde, 16 Dec (AFP)--Nearly 200 Libyan tanks took part in the capture of Ndjamenas which fell to the Chadian coalition government on Monday, it was learned last night in Yaounde where Mr Hissein Habre, head of FAN, has arrived. Mr Hissein Habre was received by President Ahmadou Ahidjo a little after his arrival in Yaounde at the head of a FAN delegation.

Details on Ndjamenas Capture

AB161032 Paris AFP in French 0935 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] Kousseri (northern Cameroon), 16 December (AFP)--Observers said on Tuesday that they think the seizure by the coalition forces of President Goukouni Oueddei of the 13 April Camp situated at the Independence Square in the center of Chad's capital on Sunday afternoon was a decisive factor in the outcome of the battle of Ndjamenas.

Announcing the fall of the 13 April Camp on Monday, Vice President Wadal Abdel Kader Kamougue, commander in chief of the government forces, also stressed that the seizure of that FAN bastion was one of the main objectives of his troops. According to him, the fighting was bitter. He said in an interview on radio Moundou (a station in the south of the country) that the government forces successively occupied several sectors of the administrative sectors of the capital, that is, the Chadian Credit and Deposit Bank, the high court and the cathedral. They also seized the bank road and carried out decisive actions from the Vog movie theater. Lieutenant Colonel Kamougue added that after isolating the areas around the camp and practically cutting it away from its bases all they had left to do was to make it fall.

The battle was tough he said because the FAN had erected impressive fortifications. The FAN abandoned bazookas and light arms of all kinds and origins on the ground. In addition, according to an account received by AFP from one of its very rare European observers present in Ndjamená during the last weekend, the morale of the FAN was very low. The coalition forces which had already gained control of the whole of the capital's administrative sector had intended to launch a big offensive to retrieve the African sectors of the town but by dawn on Monday the majority of the FAN soldiers had fled that sector and headed towards Kousséri or the bush.

The government forces advanced on Charles de Gaulle road toward the big mosque and continued along the Chari River on the road leading to the central hospital. According to that witness, some FAN soldiers were arrested during the operation and a thorough search revealed those soldiers who were dressed in civilian attire. According to him, on Monday afternoon the coalition forces met no resistance in Ndjamená.

Cease-Fire Signing

AB161354 Paris AFP in English 1350 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] Yaounde, Cameroon, 16 Dec (AFP)--Rebel Chadian Defense Minister Hissein Habre signed an agreement here today for a cease-fire in the nine-month civil war, but said he still considered the Chad Government illegal and illegitimate and vowed to continue his struggle against it.

Mr Habre signed the pact almost three weeks after President Goukouni Oueddei, his opponent in the war, had done so, and one day after Habre forces pulled out of Ndjamená, the Chadian capital, leaving it in full control of the government forces for the first time since March. Mr. Habre said his troops, most of whom reportedly left during the night of Sunday to Monday for his eastern Chad base of Abeche, had effected a tactical retreat.

The struggle continues, he said, and promised to return to Chad. He had crossed the Chari River into Cameroon as his men left Ndjamená. He made his way to Maroua, northern Cameroon, and then flew to this capital.

The former defense minister, in signing the cease-fire agreement stressed that he rejected the participation of Libya and Benin in the settlement of the Chadian conflict. It was Libya's armed role that he had cited in refusing to sign until now.

CONGO

VISITING LIBYAN ON SUPPORT FOR CHAD PRESIDENT

AB141315 Paris AFP in French 1113 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Brazzaville, 13 Dec (AFP)--Congo and Libya firmly support the government of President Goukouni Oueddei in Chad, Libyan Secretary of Foreign Affairs at-Turayki 'Abd al-Salam said on Friday after an audience with President Sassou-N'guesso. Mr at-Turayki, who is in the Congo as part of a tour of Africa, noted the presence of Libyan soldiers in Chad and asserted that his country's role was to help President Goukouni in the implementation of the Lagos accords. Mr at-Turayki, who has just visited Nigeria, will now leave for Kinshasa, Zaire.

MALIMALI-LIBYA COMMISSION MEETING ENDS IN BAMAKO

AB130840 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Excerpts] The deliberations of the first session of the Mali-Libya joint commission ended this morning at the Hotel de l'Amitie. During the closing ceremony presided over by Alioune Blondin Beye, our minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, the Malian and Libyan delegations signed a trade agreement providing for the extension of the Solima [Libya-Mali company] to the sphere of agriculture. It is worth recalling that the Solima has in the past dealt with animal husbandry. The two sides also signed a cultural agreement. The documents were signed by Alioune Blondin Beye for Mali, and by Muhammad al-Hijazi for Libya. Concerning the construction by Libya of a television station and an Islamic institute in Mali, some of the necessary funds are already available, as well as part of the money necessary for the construction of the Mali-Libya bank. In his closing speech Alioune Blondin Beye expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the deliberations:

[Begin recording] Mr Minister and dear brothers of the Libyan delegation, we have thus concluded our discussions.

Even though the joint commission was created in the wake of the historic visit of Mali's head of state to Tripoli in 1973, its first session has only been held in 1980. This may give the impression that we have lost much time but the time was necessary to settle some problems. Today we have reached the implementation phase. Our experts have learned to work together by working together for 3 days. There is no doubt that they now know each other.

In regard to the legal documents a general agreement on economic cooperation was signed in 1973, along with an agreement on financial and cultural cooperation. We have fundamentally completed the documents and I can say that all legal documents are almost complete.

Mr Minister, as a matter of fact, we have just signed agreements on trade and manpower. We have also signed an amendment to the status of the existing joint company in order to make concrete our desire to extend the activities of this joint company to Mali's most important sector--agriculture. We have also outlined the framework of cultural cooperation.

Now we can envisage the implementation of the agreements. The construction of a television station--a donation from the Libyan people to the Malian people--has now entered the implementation phase, since the experts in charge of the project are already here and those from the company selected to implement the project will join them in Bamako. The funds are already available.

Also, the Libya-Mali bank has entered the implementation phase, as we have just signed its charter giving it the status of a legal institution ready to go into operation. Its capital has been provided. What now remains is to hold a meeting of its board of directors and I am convinced that, on your return home, measures will be taken for the president to call a meeting of the board of directors in conformity with the provisions of the bank's charter. This is thus another sector of cooperation which is past the planning phase.

The projected construction of an Islamic institute will soon begin because the funds for the first phase of work are now available. Those are a few examples of concrete resolutions, among others, which I mention to recall my insistence at the beginning of the deliberations on the need for concrete decisions; I can now affirm that my hopes have been realized.

Mr Minister, in conclusion I wish to express the hope that the new recommendations will not remain a dead letter. We must on both sides be alert in ensuring the implementation of the new resolutions adopted to widen the area of our cooperation.

Before I close I wish to thank you for your cooperation and your colleagues for their zeal, their determination and readiness to ensure that [words indistinct]. I want to wish you a happy trip back to your country. I reiterate the readiness of the Malian people and their leaders to maintain a brotherly, fruitful cooperation with your people to respect the personality of the two peoples, the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our countries as well as everything that is dear to us. Mr Minister, I wish you a happy trip back and I wish to ask you to convey to the Libyan people our brotherly feelings and I now merely want to say: Thank you. [end recording]

The head of the Libyan delegation also expressed satisfaction with the quality of the deliberations:

[Begin Al-Hijazi recording] I had the honor at the beginning of the deliberations to express my congratulations. I first commend all those who pulled together to achieve palpable results which will help promote ties of cooperation among our peoples.

It is true that the minister of foreign affairs stressed in his speech that joint commission meetings have not been held since 1976, but nevertheless (?the aim) of our meeting was the implementation and not the adoption of [word indistinct] measures. We can say that the results of this present meeting were positive. We signed the agreements on the joint bank and this signature was accompanied by the transfer of Malian shares to that bank in addition to its capital. We also signed the cultural agreement which was accompanied by the gift of a television station to the brother people of Mali. The necessary funds for the installation of the project have already been transferred to our embassy and the project is already underway.

The cultural accords were also accompanied by the setting up of an Islamic institute in Mali. The funds for this project have also been transferred to our embassy for the implementation of the project. The majority of the agreements we have just signed have already been started. We consider that it is a great step ahead for our joint commission.

Cooperation ties between our two countries are the outcome of the meeting between the leaders of our respective peoples. [end recording]

Press Communiqué

AB131259 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Press communiqué issued at the end of the Mali-Libya joint commission meeting held in Bamako from 9-12 December 1980 and read by (Mokhtar Diarra), director general of international cooperation]

[Text] The first session of Libya-Mali joint commission was held in the Congress Hall of the Hotel de l'Amitié of Mali from 9-12 December 1980. This meeting comes after the visit of Gen Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the republic to Tripoli in April 1976.

At this session the Libyan delegation was led by His Excellency Muhammad Mahmud al-Hijazi, secretary of information in charge of municipalities, and comprised His Excellency Sa'd 'Abd as-Salam Ba'yu, the Libyan ambassador to Mali (?and several Libyan personalities). The Malian delegation was led by His Excellency Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation and comprised his excellency [name indistinct] the Mali ambassador to Tripoli and several Malian personalities.

At the opening session the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation welcomed the Libyan delegation and stressed the progress already made in the cooperation between Libya and Mali and the readiness of the Malian people their party and their government to strengthen this cooperation. He expressed the hope that concrete decisions would emerge from this first session. In reply the leader of the Libyan delegation conveyed brotherly and friendly greetings from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, guide of the great September revolution to Gen Moussa Tradre, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and to the Malian people. He expressed Libya's readiness to examine both the old and new projects.

His Excellency Muhammad Mahmoud al-Hijazi, secretary of information and municipalities, was received on Thursday, 11 December 1980, at 1100 (?on behalf of the head of state) by His Excellency Gen Lamine Baba Diarra, deputy secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People to whom he delivered a special message from His Excellency Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi guide of the great September revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah and from the Secretary General of the Libyan People's Congress, 'Abd al-Ati 'Ubaydi. The talks, which took place in the presence of Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation and the ambassadors of the two countries were on bilateral cooperation. He held talks with several members of the Malian Government, including Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Her Excellency Mrs Fatou Gakou Niang, minister of information and telecommunications; His Excellency Mr Drissa Keita, minister of finance and commerce; His Excellency Mr Robert Tieble N'daw, minister of industrial development and tourism; His Excellency Boubacar Diallo, minister of labor and civil service, and the permanent under secretary of the Ministry of National Education.

During their meeting the two parties took stock of the situation and examined the prospects of their cooperation. The two parties reviewed the report on the visit made to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah by His Excellency Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, in June 1980. This visit in fact contributed towards the revival of bilateral cooperation especially in the spheres of water supply, information, rural development, education and culture. A commercial agreement, an agreement on the employment of the [word indistinct], an agreement on external trade and development between Libya and Mali, and agreement amending the agreement on education and the prospect of execution of the cultural agreement for the years 1981-1982, were signed.

The meeting, which took place in the presence of His Excellency Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation and the ambassadors of both countries, were on bilateral cooperation. After the session the two delegation's leaders expressed their satisfaction with the results obtained by their experts, results which prove the readiness of the two parties to (?strive to strengthen) the ties of cooperation.

The Libyan secretary of information in charge of municipalities invited His Excellency Mr Robert Tieble N'daw, minister of industrial development and tourism and Her Excellency Mrs Fatou Gakou Niang, minister of information and telecommunications, to undertake official visits to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah. The two ministers accepted this invitation. The dates of the visits will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

The two parties agreed that the next session of the joint commission will be held in Tripoli in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, at a date which will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

His Excellency Muhammad Mahmoud al-Hijazi expressed sincere thanks to the Malian people, their party and their government for the warm welcome and the true African hospitality he and his delegation received.

ANGOLASRV'S GIAP CONCLUDES VISIT, DEPARTS FOR ALGIERS

AB151410 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] The Vietnamese deputy prime minister, Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, and his delegation left Luanda yesterday for Algiers, Algeria, at the end of a short working visit to the People's Republic of Angola. The Vietnamese officials arrived in the country at the invitation of the Angolan people and government and during their stay in Luanda, they are reported to have held talks with a delegation of the MPLA-Workers' Party led by Comrade Lucio Lara, member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Workers' Party.

A joint communique signed at the end of the talks says Angola and Vietnam have expressed willingness to further develop cooperation relations in the fields of culture, economy, technology and science including the exchange of technicians and experience in various sectors. The Vietnamese delegation has praised the forthcoming first extraordinary congress of the Angolan MPLA-Workers' Party which will start in 2 days time. The communique also underlines that the two countries reaffirmed their support to the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, of Namibia, the sole and legitimate representative of the people of Namibia. They also support the intensification of the armed, political, and diplomatic struggle [words indistinct] and help the people of Namibia achieve their independence.

The two countries are reported to have touched various international issues and the communique says the two delegations also expressed solidarity with the world's oppressed peoples, condemning the Chinese expansionists in connivance with North American imperialism. They are also said to have welcomed and supported national independence and democratic socialism in the world.

During his stay in the country, the Vietnamese deputy prime minister was received in audience by the Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. During the discussions, bilateral issues were touched and homage paid to the late leader of the Angolan revolution, Comrade President Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto with the placing of a wreath of flowers on his grave.

MOZAMBIQUEOFFICIAL EXPLAINS PREFERENCE FOR CEMA MEMBERSHIP

LD121644 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 0700 GMT 12 Dec 80 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--Frelimo's secretary for planning, Ndugu Marcelino dos Santos, has said that his country was working out plans to elevate it from observer status at the economic community of the East European Countries, COMECON. Ndugu dos Santos said Mozambique prefers COMECON membership to the European Economic Community, EEC, because COMECON allows full membership while the EEC does it through agencies like Lome-2.

Ndugu dos Santos was speaking to reporters yesterday during a stopover in Dar es Salaam on his way home, after attending the second congress of the Cuban Communist Party in Havana. He was met at the Dar es Salaam airport by the minister for foreign affairs, Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim.

NAMIBIASWAPO SUPPORTERS PROTEST MILITARY TRAINING

AB150750 Paris AFP in English 0722 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Windhoek, South-West Africa, Dec 15 (AFP)--More than 2,000 supporters of the SWAPO guerrillas assembled openly near here on Sunday to protest against a recent decree imposing compulsory military training. The crowd at the Katatura black township sang revolutionary songs and chanted slogans of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO). Youths wearing the SWAPO colors--red, blue and green--moved about with fists brandished in the black-power salute. Police stood by and did not intervene.

Speakers belonging to the SWAPO youth movement attacked the military training order as an evil trick by South Africa and its puppets. Others said its aim was to get us to fight against our own brothers.

Other critics hit out against the recent ethnic voting or second-tier elections in Namibia, calling them a ploy by the South African Boers to divide and rule the Namibian people.

COMPOSITION OF DELEGATION TO UN TALKS ANNOUNCED

AB160838 Paris AFP in English 0815 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] Windhoek, Dec 16 (AFP)--The South African administrator in Namibia, Danie Hough, on Monday announced the composition of a 26-person Namibian delegation to a proposed United Nations-sponsored conference on terms for independence here. Mr Hough, whose announcement came after informed sources in London said the talks could open in Geneva on January 7, added that he would lead the Namibian delegation himself.

He said the delegation would include 14 members of the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance]--the principal internal party that controls the National Assembly, which was elected in internal elections that were boycotted by the South-West Africa People Organisation (SWAPO) nationalist movement.

Other delegates would include three Aktur, the rightist opposition party in the assembly, and members of the Namibian Progressive Party, the Christian Democratic Party of Namibia, the Namibian People's Liberation Front, the Liberal Party and the Federal Party.

SWAPO, which is recognized by the United Nations as the legitimate representative of the Namibian people, says these parties are all puppets of Pretoria.

SOUTH AFRICATRADE EXPANSION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ISRAEL

LD151022 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Dec 80 CA

[Text] It is reported from Jerusalem that Israel and South Africa have agreed to increase their bilateral trade by extending for 3 years a 1978 agreement providing for trade credits for Israel and allowing approved investment projects in the country. Details of the agreement were outlined at a press conference today by the visiting South African minister of finance, Senator Horwood, and his Israeli counterpart, Mr Hurwitz. Senator Horwood said South Africans would be allowed to invest up to 45 million rand in approved projects in Israel. The agreement also allowed Israel 125 million rand in trade credits for the purchase of South African exports.

Fishing rights for Israeli boats in South African waters were also discussed. Israeli officials say agreement was reached in principle on an extension of fishing rights for Israeli fishing boats along the South African coast. No agreement has been concluded on South African coal exports to Israel but observers in Jerusalem say South Africa has agreed to increase the quota of coal supplies. Israel has asked for an additional 3 million tons over and above the 1 million tons a year previously agreed on.

Senator Horwood and Mr Hurwitz both spoke out in favor of increased trade between their countries and said that economic cooperation was not dependent on the internal policy on either country. Senator Horwood said relations between South Africa and Israel were excellent and very important. He was speaking at the end of a week-long official visit to Israel during which he also had talks with the Israeli prime minister, Mr Begin.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA MEETS WITH PLO DELEGATION, PLEDGES SUPPORT

LD151040 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Dec 80 CA

[Text] President Kaunda today pledged Zambia's continued support for the Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, and expressed great surprise at Israel's negative attitude towards the cause of the Palestinian people. He made the remarks when he received a PLO delegation which called on him with a special message from PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat at State House today. The president said it was very surprising to Zambians to see a peaceful race like Jews, who have known great suffering and lost 6 million of its people in the holocaust under Nazi leader Adolf Hitler during the Second World War, starting behaving like Hitler. Jews were people that suffered so much and this was why to Zambia it was surprising to see the same people [word indistinct] to start behaving exactly the same way towards other people, he lamented.

He described the PLO as an organization fighting for the freedom of the Palestinian people and pledged Zambia's continued support for them. Dr Kaunda said that fighting for freedom is a God-given right and every nation, small or big, is entitled to freedom under whatever cost. In reply the PLO secretary general, Ahmad Mashiri, described Zambians as champions of freedom and expressed profound gratitude for Zambia's commitment to the course of Palestine liberation at international forums.

Earlier at another State House ceremony President Kaunda said that Zambia greatly appreciated Egypt's efforts towards peace in the Middle East and again expressed bewilderment over Israel's worrisome attitude. He told the new Egyptian ambassador to Zambia, Mr 'Imad al-Qadi, who presented his credentials, that if Zambia disagreed with Egypt over the Camp David peace accords between Egypt and Israel it was a disagreement on strategy. Egypt and Zambia were like a family and just as much as a husband can disagree with his wife, so can they in certain areas, he said, adding that nothing had really changed between the two countries, which were still firm friends. Ambassador al-Qadi said that President Kaunda and Zambia's role in the liberation of Southern Africa was internationally acknowledged and it was because of this that Egypt had placed Zambia at the top in the field of technical and economic cooperation. We pledged Egypt's commitment to increase this cooperation.